O. 63

BY COMMAND OF His late Majesty WILLIAM THE IVth.

and under the Patronage of

Her Majesty the Queen.



HISTORICAL RECORDS,

OF THE

British Army

Comprising the

History of every Regiment

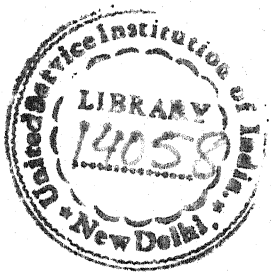
IN HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

By Richard Cannon Esq.re

Adjutant Generals Office, Horse Guards.

London.

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HISTORICAL RECORD

OF

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

W.S.L.
O. 63.

GENERAL ORDERS.

HORSE-GUARDS,
1st January, 1836.

His Majesty has been pleased to command that, with the view of doing the fullest justice to Regiments, as well as to Individuals who have distinguished themselves by their Bravery in Action with the Enemy, an Account of the Services of every Regiment in the British Army shall be published under the superintendence and direction of the Adjutant-General; and that this Account shall contain the following particulars, viz.:—

—— The Period and Circumstances of the Original Formation of the Regiment; The Stations at which it has been from time to time employed; The Battles, Sieges, and other Military Operations in which it has been engaged, particularly specifying any Achievement it may have performed, and the Colours, Trophies, &c., it may have captured from the Enemy.

—— The Names of the Officers, and the number of Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Killed or Wounded by the Enemy, specifying the place and Date of the Action.

—— The Names of those Officers who, in consideration of their Gallant Services and Meritorious Conduct in Engagements with the Enemy, have been distinguished with Titles, Medals, or other Marks of His Majesty's gracious favour.

—— The Names of all such Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, as may have specially signalized themselves in Action.

And,

—— The Badges and Devices which the Regiment may have been permitted to bear, and the Causes on account of which such Badges or Devices, or any other Marks of Distinction, have been granted.

By Command of the Right Honorable

GENERAL LORD HILL,

Commanding-in-Chief.

JOHN MACDONALD,

Adjutant-General.

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PREFACE.

THE character and credit of the British Army must chiefly depend upon the zeal and ardour by which all who enter into its service are animated, and consequently it is of the highest importance that any measure calculated to excite the spirit of emulation, by which alone great and gallant actions are achieved, should be adopted.

Nothing can more fully tend to the accomplishment of this desirable object than a full display of the noble deeds with which the Military History of our country abounds. To hold forth these bright examples to the imitation of the youthful soldier, and thus to incite him to emulate the meritorious conduct of those who have preceded him in their honorable career, are among the motives that have given rise to the present publication.

The operations of the British Troops are, indeed, announced in the "London Gazette," from whence they are transferred into the public prints: the achievements of our armies are thus made known at the time of their occurrence, and receive the tribute

of praise and admiration to which they are entitled. On extraordinary occasions, the Houses of Parliament have been in the habit of conferring on the Commanders, and the Officers and Troops acting under their orders, expressions of approbation and of thanks for their skill and bravery; and these testimonials, confirmed by the high honour of their Sovereign's approbation, constitute the reward which the soldier most highly prizes.

It has not, however, until late years, been the practice (which appears to have long prevailed in some of the Continental armies) for British Regiments to keep regular records of their services and achievements. Hence some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining, particularly from the old Regiments, an authentic account of their origin and subsequent services.

This defect will now be remedied, in consequence of His Majesty having been pleased to command that every Regiment shall, in future, keep a full and ample record of its services at home and abroad.

From the materials thus collected, the country will henceforth derive information as to the difficulties and privations which chequer the career of those who embrace the military profession. In Great Britain, where so large a number of persons are devoted to the active concerns of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, and where these pursuits have, for so

long a period, being undisturbed by the *presence of war*, which few other countries have escaped, comparatively little is known of the vicissitudes of active service and of the casualties of climate, to which, even during peace, the British Troops are exposed in every part of the globe, with little or no interval of repose.

In their tranquil enjoyment of the blessings which the country derives from the industry and the enterprise of the agriculturist and the trader, its happy inhabitants may be supposed not often to reflect on the perilous duties of the soldier and the sailor,—on their sufferings,—and on the sacrifice of valuable life, by which so many national benefits are obtained and preserved.

The conduct of the British Troops, their valour, and endurance, have shone conspicuously under great and trying difficulties; and their character has been established in Continental warfare by the irresistible spirit with which they have effected debarkations in spite of the most formidable opposition, and by the gallantry and steadiness with which they have maintained their advantages against superior numbers.

In the official Reports made by the respective Commanders, ample justice has generally been done to the gallant exertions of the Corps employed; but the details of their services and of acts of individual

bravery can only be fully given in the Annals of the various Regiments.

These Records are now preparing for publication, under His Majesty's special authority, by Mr. RICHARD CANNON, Principal Clerk of the Adjutant General's Office; and while the perusal of them cannot fail to be useful and interesting to military men of every rank, it is considered that they will also afford entertainment and information to the general reader, particularly to those who may have served in the Army, or who have relatives in the Service.

There exists in the breasts of most of those who have served, or are serving, in the Army, an *Esprit de Corps*—an attachment to everything belonging to their Regiment; to such persons a narrative of the services of their own Corps cannot fail to prove interesting. Authentic accounts of the actions of the great, the valiant, the loyal, have always been of paramount interest with a brave and civilized people. Great Britain has produced a race of heroes who, in moments of danger and terror, have stood "firm as the rocks of their native shore:" and when half the world has been arrayed against them, they have fought the battles of their Country with unshaken fortitude. It is presumed that a record of achievements in war,—victories so complete and surprising, gained by our countrymen, our brothers,

our fellow citizens in arms,—a record which revives the memory of the brave, and brings their gallant deeds before us,—will certainly prove acceptable to the public.

Biographical Memoirs of the Colonels and other distinguished Officers will be introduced in the Records of their respective Regiments, and the Honorary Distinctions which have, from time to time, been conferred upon each Regiment, as testifying the value and importance of its services, will be faithfully set forth.

As a convenient mode of Publication, the Record of each Regiment will be printed in a distinct number, so that when the whole shall be completed, the Parts may be bound up in numerical succession.

INTRODUCTION

TO

THE INFANTRY.

THE natives of Britain have, at all periods, been celebrated for innate courage and unshaken firmness, and the national superiority of the British troops over those of other countries has been evinced in the midst of the most imminent perils. History contains so many proofs of extraordinary acts of bravery, that no doubts can be raised upon the facts which are recorded. It must therefore be admitted, that the distinguishing feature of the British soldier is INTREPIDITY. This quality was evinced by the inhabitants of England when their country was invaded by Julius Cæsar with a Roman army, on which occasion the undaunted Britons rushed into the sea to attack the Roman soldiers as they descended from their ships; and, although their discipline and arms were inferior to those of their adversaries, yet their fierce and dauntless bearing intimidated the flower of the Roman troops, including Cæsar's favourite tenth legion. Their arms consisted of spears, short swords, and other weapons of rude construction. They had chariots, to the

axles of which were fastened sharp pieces of iron resembling scythe-blades, and infantry in long chariots resembling waggons, who alighted and fought on foot, and for change of ground, pursuit or retreat, sprang into the chariot and drove off with the speed of cavalry. These inventions were, however, unavailing against Cæsar's legions: in the course of time a military system, with discipline and subordination, was introduced, and British courage, being thus regulated, was exerted to the greatest advantage; a full development of the national character followed, and it shone forth in all its native brilliancy.

The military force of the Anglo-Saxons consisted principally of infantry: Thanes, and other men of property, however, fought on horseback. The infantry were of two classes, heavy and light. The former carried large shields armed with spikes, long broad swords and spears; and the latter were armed with swords or spears only. They had also men armed with clubs, others with battle-axes and javelins.

The feudal troops established by William the Conqueror consisted (as already stated in the Introduction to the Cavalry) almost entirely of horse; but when the warlike barons and knights, with their trains of tenants and vassals, took the field, a proportion of men appeared on foot, and, although these were of inferior degree, they proved stout-hearted Britons of stanch fidelity. When stipendiary troops were employed, infantry always constituted a considerable portion of the military force;

and this *arme* has since acquired, in every quarter of the globe, a celebrity never exceeded by the armies of any nation at any period.

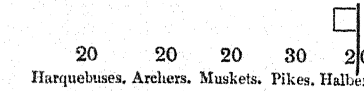
The weapons carried by the infantry, during the several reigns succeeding the Conquest, were bows and arrows, half-pikes, lances, halberds, various kinds of battle-axes, swords, and daggers. Armour was worn on the head and body, and in course of time the practice became general for military men to be so completely cased in steel, that it was almost impossible to slay them.

The introduction of the use of gunpowder in the destructive purposes of war, in the early part of the fourteenth century, produced a change in the arms and equipment of the infantry-soldier. Bows and arrows gave place to various kinds of fire-arms, but British archers continued formidable adversaries; and, owing to the inconvenient construction and imperfect bore of the fire-arms when first introduced, a body of men, well trained in the use of the bow from their youth, was considered a valuable acquisition to every army, even as late as the sixteenth century.

During a great part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth each company of infantry usually consisted of men armed five different ways; in every hundred men forty were "*men-at-arms*," and sixty "*shot*;" the "men-at-arms" were ten halberdiers, or battle-axe men, and thirty pikemen; and the "shot" were twenty archers, twenty musketeers, and twenty harquebusiers, and each man carried, besides his principal weapon, a sword and dagger.

Companies of infantry varied at this period in numbers from 150 to 300 men; each company had a colour or ensign, and the mode of formation recommended by an English military writer (Sir John Smithe) in 1590 was:—the colour in the centre of the company guarded by the halberdiers; the pikemen in equal proportions, on each flank of the halberdiers: half the musketeers on each flank of the pikes; half the archers on each flank of the musketeers, and the harquebusiers (whose arms were much lighter than the muskets then in use) in equal proportions on each flank of the company for skirmishing.* It was customary to unite a number of companies into one body, called a REGIMENT, which frequently amounted to three thousand men: but each company continued to carry a colour. Numerous improvements were eventually introduced in the construction of fire-arms, and, it having been found impossible to make armour proof against the muskets then in use (which carried a very heavy ball) without its being too weighty for the soldier, armour was gradually laid aside by the infantry in the seventeenth century: bows and arrows also fell into disuse, and the infantry were reduced to two classes, viz.: *musketeers*, armed with matchlock muskets,

* A company of 200 men would appear thus:—



The musket carried a ball which weighed $\frac{1}{10}$th of a pound; and the harquebus a ball which weighed $\frac{1}{20}$th of a pound.

swords, and daggers; and *pikemen*, armed with pikes from fourteen to eighteen feet long, and swords.

In the early part of the seventeenth century Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, reduced the strength of regiments to 1000 men. He caused the gunpowder, which had heretofore been carried in flasks, or in small wooden bandoliers, each containing a charge, to be made up into cartridges, and carried in pouches; and he formed each regiment into two wings of musketeers, and a centre division of pikemen. He also adopted the practice of forming four regiments into a brigade; and the number of colours was afterwards reduced to three in each regiment. He formed his columns so compactly that his infantry could resist the charge of the celebrated Polish horsemen and Austrian cuirassiers; and his armies became the admiration of other nations. His mode of formation was copied by the English, French, and other European states; but so great was the prejudice in favour of ancient customs, that all his improvements were not adopted until near a century afterwards.

In 1664 King Charles II. raised a corps for sea-service, styled the Admiral's regiment. In 1678 each company of 100 men usually consisted of 30 pikemen, 60 musketeers, and 10 men armed with light firelocks. In this year the King added a company of men armed with hand grenades to each of the old British regiments, which was designated the "grenadier company." Daggers were so contrived as to fit in the muzzles of the muskets, and bayonets,

similar to those at present in use, were adopted about twenty years afterwards.

An Ordnance regiment was raised in 1685, by order of King James II., to guard the artillery, and was designated the Royal Fusiliers (now 7th Foot). This corps, and the companies of grenadiers, did not carry pikes

King William III. incorporated the Admiral's regiment in the second Foot Guards, and raised two Marine regiments for sea-service. During the war in this reign, each company of infantry (excepting the fusiliers and grenadiers) consisted of 14 pikemen and 46 musketeers; the captains carried pikes; lieutenants, partisans; ensigns, half-pikes; and serjeants, halberds. After the peace in 1697 the Marine regiments were disbanded, but were again formed on the breaking out of the war in 1702.*

During the reign of Queen Anne the pikes were laid aside, and every infantry soldier was armed with a musket, bayonet, and sword; the grenadiers ceased, about the same period, to carry hand grenades; and the regiments were directed to lay aside their third colour: the corps of Royal Artillery was first added to the Army in this reign.

About the year 1745, the men of the battalion companies of infantry ceased to carry swords; during

* The 30th, 31st, and 32nd Regiments were formed as Marine corps in 1702, and were employed as such during the wars in the reign of Queen Anne. The Marine corps were embarked in the Fleet under Admiral Sir George Rooke, and were at the taking of Gibraltar, and in its subsequent defence in 1704; they were afterwards employed at the siege of Barcelona in 1705.

the reign of George II. light companies were added to infantry regiments; and in 1764 a Board of General Officers recommended that the grenadiers should lay aside their swords, as that weapon had never been used during the Seven Years' War. Since that period the arms of the infantry soldier have been limited to the musket and bayonet.

The arms and equipment of the British Troops have seldom differed materially, since the Conquest, from those of other European states; and in some respects the arming has, at certain periods, been allowed to be inferior to that of the nations with whom they have had to contend; yet, under this disadvantage, the bravery and superiority of the British infantry have been evinced on very many and most trying occasions, and splendid victories have been gained over very superior numbers.

Great Britain has produced a race of lion-like champions who have dared to confront a host of foes, and have proved themselves valiant with any arms. At *Crecy*, King Edward III., at the head of about 30,000 men, defeated, on the 26th of August, 1346, Philip King of France, whose army is said to have amounted to 100,000 men; here British valour encountered veterans of renown:—the King of Bohemia, the King of Majorca, and many princes and nobles were slain, and the French army was routed and cut to pieces. Ten years afterwards, Edward Prince of Wales, who was designated the Black Prince, defeated, at *Poictiers*, with 14,000 men, a French army of 60,000 horse, besides infantry, and took John I., King of France, and his son

Philip, prisoners. On the 25th of October, 1415, King Henry V., with an army of about 13,000 men, although greatly exhausted by marches, privations, and sickness, defeated, at *Agincourt*, the Constable of France, at the head of the flower of the French nobility and an army said to amount to 60,000 men, and gained a complete victory.

During the seventy years' war between the United Provinces of the Netherlands and the Spanish monarchy, which commenced in 1578 and terminated in 1648, the British infantry in the service of the States-General were celebrated for their unconquerable spirit and firmness;* and in the thirty years' war between the Protestant Princes and the Emperor of Germany, the British Troops in the service of Sweden and other states were celebrated for deeds of heroism.† In the wars of Queen Anne, the fame of the British army under the great MARLBOROUGH was spread throughout the world; and if we glance at the achievements performed within the memory of persons now living, there is abundant proof that the Britons of the present age are not inferior to their ancestors in the qualities

* The brave Sir Roger Williams, in his Discourse on War, printed in 1590, observes:—"I persuade myself ten thousand of our nation would beat thirty thousand of theirs (the Spaniards) out of the field, let them be chosen where they list." Yet at this time the Spanish infantry was allowed to be the best disciplined in Europe. For instances of valour displayed by the British Infantry during the Seventy Years' War, see the Historical Record of the Third Foot, or Buffs.

† *Vide* the Historical Record of the First, or Royal Regiment of Foot.

which constitute good soldiers. Witness the deeds of the brave men, of whom there are many now surviving, who fought in Egypt in 1801, under the brave Abercromby, and compelled the French army, which had been vainly styled *Invincible*, to evacuate that country; also the services of the gallant Troops during the arduous campaigns in the Peninsula, under the immortal WELLINGTON; and the determined stand made by the British Army at Waterloo, where Napoleon Bonaparte, who had long been the inveterate enemy of Great Britain, and had sought and planned her destruction by every means he could devise, was compelled to leave his vanquished legions to their fate, and to place himself at the disposal of the British Government. These achievements, with others of recent dates, in the distant climes of India, prove that the same valour and constancy which glowed in the breasts of the heroes of Crecy, Poictiers, Agincourt, Blenheim, and Ramilies, continue to animate the Britons of the nineteenth century.

The British Soldier is distinguished for a robust and muscular frame,—intrepidity which no danger can appal,—unconquerable spirit and resolution,—patience in fatigue and privation, and cheerful obedience to his superiors. These qualities, united with an excellent system of order and discipline to regulate and give a skilful direction to the energies and adventurous spirit of the hero, and a wise selection of officers of superior talent to command, whose presence inspires confidence,—have been the leading causes of the splendid victories gained by the British

arms.* The fame of the deeds of the past and present generations in the various battle-fields where the robust sons of Albion have fought and conquered, surrounds the British arms with a halo of glory; these achievements will live in the page of history to the end of time.

The records of the several regiments will be found to contain a detail of facts of an interesting character, connected with the hardships, sufferings, and gallant exploits of British soldiers in the various parts of the world where the calls of their Country and the commands of their Sovereign have required them to proceed in the execution of their duty, whether in

* Under the blessing of Divine Providence, His Majesty ascribes the successes which have attended the exertions of his troops in Egypt to that determined bravery which is inherent in Britons; but His Majesty desires it may be most solemnly and forcibly impressed on the consideration of every part of the army, that it has been a strict observance of order, discipline, and military system, which has given the full energy to the native valour of the troops, and has enabled them proudly to assert the superiority of the national military character, in situations uncommonly arduous, and under circumstances of peculiar difficulty."—*General Orders in* 1801.

In the General Orders issued by Lieut.-General Sir John Hope (afterwards Lord Hopetoun), congratulating the army upon the successful result of the Battle of Corunna, on the 16th of January, 1809, it is stated:—"On no occasion has the undaunted valour of British troops ever been more manifest. At the termination of a severe and harassing march, rendered necessary by the superiority which the enemy had acquired, and which had materially impaired the efficiency of the troops, many disadvantages were to be encountered. These have all been surmounted by the conduct of the troops themselves: and the enemy has been taught, that whatever advantages of position or of numbers he may possess, there is inherent in the British officers and soldiers a bravery that knows not how to yield,—that no circumstances can appal,—and that will ensure victory, when it is to be obtained by the exertion of any human means."

active continental operations, or in maintaining colonial territories in distant and unfavourable climes.

The superiority of the British Infantry has been pre-eminently set forth in the wars of six centuries, and admitted by the greatest commanders which Europe has produced. The formations and movements of this *armé*, as at present practised, while they are adapted to every species of warfare, and to all probable situations and circumstances of service, are calculated to show forth the brilliancy of military tactics calculated upon mathematical and scientific principles. Although the movements and evolutions have been copied from the continental armies, yet various improvements have from time to time been introduced, to ensure that simplicity and celerity by which the superiority of the national military character is maintained. The rank and influence which Great Britain has attained among the nations of the world, have in a great measure been purchased by the valour of the Army, and to persons who have the welfare of their country at heart, the records of the several regiments cannot fail to prove interesting.

HISTORICAL RECORD

OF

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS;

CONTAINING

AN ACCOUNT OF THE FORMATION OF THE REGIMENT
IN 1689,
AND OF ITS SUBSEQUENT SERVICES
TO 1850.

COMPILED BY
RICHARD CANNON, Esq.
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, HORSE GUARDS.

ILLUSTRATED WITH PLATES.

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FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS,

BEARS ON THE REGIMENTAL COLOUR

The *Device of the Prince of Wales*, namely, Three Feathers issuing out of the Prince's Coronet, with the motto, "*Ich Dien*," in the centre:—the *Rising Sun* in the upper sinister corner;—the *Red Dragon* in the lower dexter corner; being the badges of Edward the Black Prince.

ALSO,

The *White Horse* upon a *mount*, with the motto "*Nec aspera terrent*," underneath, in the lower sinister corner.

The word "MINDEN," in commemoration of the gallantry displayed in the battle fought at *Minden* on the 1st of August, 1759.

The word "EGYPT," with the "SPHINX," in commemoration of its services in the expulsion of the French Army from *Egypt* in the year 1801.

The word "MARTINIQUE," as a testimony of the distinguished conduct of the First Battalion in the capture of the Island of *Martinique* on the 24th of February, 1809.

The word "CORUNNA," as a testimony of the gallant services of the Second Battalion on the 16th of January, 1809.

The words "ALBUHERA," "BADAJOZ," "SALAMANCA," "VITTORIA," "PYRENEES," "NIVELLE," "ORTHES," "TOULOUSE," and "PENINSULA," in commemoration of the services of the First Battalion during the Peninsular War from 1810 to 1814.

AND

The word "WATERLOO," as a lasting testimony of the distinguished services of the Regiment at the memorable Battle of Waterloo on the 18th of June, 1815.

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

CONTENTS OF THE HISTORICAL RECORD.

Year		Page
1688	The Revolution	1
——	Flight of King James II. to France	2
1689	Accession of the Prince and Princess of Orange to the Throne, as King William III. and Queen Mary	–
——	Expedition of King James to Ireland	–
——	Formation of the TWENTY-THIRD, and other regiments	–
——	Henry, Lord Herbert, appointed Colonel of the Regiment	3
——	The colonelcy conferred on Colonel Charles Herbert	–
——	Settlement of affairs in Scotland	–
——	Siege of *Londonderry* by King James	–
——	The Duke de Schomberg sent to Ireland with reinforcements	4
——	Embarkation of the Regiment for Ireland	5
——	Encamped at Dundalk	–
1690	Arrival of King William III. in Ireland	–
——	Battle of the Boyne	–
——	Flight of King James to France	7

Year		Page
1690	Surrender of *Drogheda*	7
——	The Army reviewed by King William at Finglass	—
——	Surrender of *Waterford*	8
——	———— of *Fort Duncannon*	—
——	Siege of *Limerick*	—
——	Skirmishes with the "*Rapparees*"	9
1691	King William proceeded to Holland	10
——	Progress of the war in Flanders	—
——	*Mons* surrendered to the French	—
——	Return of King William to the Hague	11
——	General the Baron de Ghinkel appointed Commander-in-chief in Ireland	—
——	Siege and capture of *Ballymore*	12
——	Passage of the *Shannon* at Athlone	13
——	Capture of *Athlone*	—
——	BATTLE OF AGHRIM	—
——	Death of Colonel Charles Herbert	14
——	Lieut.-Colonel Toby Purcell, appointed Colonel of the Regiment	—
——	Siege of *Banagher Castle*	15
——	Occupation of the *Pass of Portumna*	—
——	Siege and capture of *Galway*	—
——	*Galway* occupied by the TWENTY-THIRD and other Regiments	—
——	Embarkation of the Regiment for England	—
——	Surrender of *Limerick*, and termination of the war in Ireland	16
——	Return of King William from Holland	—
1692	Embarkation of King William for Holland	—
——	Sir John Morgan, Bart., appointed Colonel of the Regiment	17
——	Capture of *Namur* by the French	—
——	BATTLE OF STEENKIRK	18
——	Capture of *Furnes* and *Dixmude*	—
——	Decease of Colonel Sir John Morgan	—

Year		Page
1693	Lieut.-Colonel Richard Ingoldsby appointed Colonel of the Regiment	18
——	Forcing the French lines at *D'Otignies*	19
——	BATTLE OF LANDEN, OR NEER-WINDEN	—
1694	The TWENTY-THIRD, and other Regiments, embarked for Flanders	20
——	Capture of *Huy* from the French	21
1695	The French lines reconnoitred by King William	22
——	Attack on *Fort Knocque*	23
——	Siege of *Namur* by King William	—
——	Progress of the siege	24
——	Attack on the *Porte-de-Fer*	—
——	Surrender of *Dixmude* and *Deinse*.	25
——	Capitulation of the town of *Namur*	26
——	Siege of the *Castle of Namur*	—
——	The Regiment marched to the relief of Brussels	—
——	Return of the Regiment to Namur.	—
——	The Grenadier Company engaged in the attack on the counterscarp of the *Terra Nova*.	—
——	Capitulation of the *Castle of Namur*	27
1696	Plot in favour of King James II.	—
——	French expedition against England	—
——	The TWENTY-THIRD and other Regiments reviewed at Bellem	28
——	Proceeded to Appels	—
——	—————— Bruges	29
1697	Peace of Ryswick	—
——	Conditions of the Treaty	—
——	Embarkation of the Regiment for Ireland	—
1700	*War of the Spanish Succession*	30
——	Occupation of the Spanish Netherlands by the French	—
1701	The Regiment embarked for Flanders	31
——	The Army reviewed on Breda Heath by King William III.	—

Year		Page
1701	Death of King James II., at St. Germains	31
——	Recognition by Louis XIV., of the Pretender as King of Great Britain and Ireland	—
1702	Decease of King William III.	32
——	War declared by Queen Anne against France and Spain	—
——	Siege of *Kayserswerth*	—
——	Skirmish at *Nimeguen*	33
——	Surrender of *Kayserswerth*	—
——	The Earl of Marlborough assumed the command of the confederate forces	—
——	Siege and capture of *Venloo*	—
——	Capture of *Stevenswaert* and *Ruremonde*	—
——	Occupation of *Liege*	34
——	Capture of the *Citadel of Liege*	—
——	Surrender of the *Chartreuse*	—
——	Effectives of the Regiment	—
——	Marched into Holland for winter quarters	—
1703	Siege of *Bonn*	—
——	Action near *Tongres*	35
——	Surrender of *Bonn*	—
——	March of the Army towards Tongres	—
——	Capture of *Huy*	36
——	———— Limburg	—
——	Marched into winter quarters in Brabant.	—
1704	Proceeded to Germany	37
——	BATTLE OF SCHELLENBERG	—
——	Occupation of *Donawerth*	39
——	Siege and capture of *Rain*	—
——	Siege of *Ingoldstadt*	—
——	BATTLE OF BLENHEIM	40
——	Siege of *Ingoldstadt* abandoned	42
——	Occupation of Ratisbon, Augsburg, Meningen, and other towns	43
——	Surrender of *Ulm*	—

Year		Page
1704	Siege and capture of *Landau* . . .	43
——	Return of the Regiment to Holland for winter quarters.	—
——	Occupation of *Treves*	—
——	Siege and capture of *Traerbach* . . .	—
1705	The Regiment stationed at Ruremonde . .	—
——	Lieutenant-General Ingoldsby removed to the Eighteenth Regiment	—
——	Lieut.-Colonel Joseph Sabine appointed Colonel of the Regiment	—
——	The TWENTY-THIRD and Twenty-fourth Regiments reviewed by the Duke of Marlborough	—
——	March of the confederate Army to the Moselle.	44
——	Recapture of *Huy* by the Allies . . .	—
——	The French lines at *Helixem* and *Neer-Hespen* forced by the Allies.	45
——	Skirmish near the *Dyle*	—
——	Siege and surrender of *Sandvliet* . . .	46
——	Return of the Regiment to Holland for winter quarters.	—
1706	Arrival of the Regiment at the Camp near Tongres	—
——	BATTLE OF RAMILIES	—
——	Results of the Victory	47
——	Siege and surrender of *Ostend* . . .	—
——	———— *Menin* . . .	—
——	———— *Dendermond* . .	—
——	———— *Aeth*	—
——	March of the Regiment to Ghent for winter quarters.	—
1707	Extract from the Duke of Marlborough's letter to Lieut.-General Ingoldsby, relative to the use of *partisans* by the *Twenty-first* and TWENTY-THIRD *Fusiliers*	48

Year		Page
1707	Opening of the Campaign	48
——	Operations confined to marches and counter-marches.	—
——	Return of the Regiment to Ghent	—
1708	Designs of Louis XIV. in favour of the Pretender	—
——	Measures taken to repel the French expedition.	49
——	Return of the French fleet to Dunkirk without effecting a landing on the English Coast	—
——	Return to Flanders of the troops, which had been embarked from Ostend for England, under Brigadier-General Sabine	—
——	March of the Regiment to Brussels.	—
——	*Ghent* and *Bruges* taken by the French	—
——	*Oudenarde* invested by the French.	—
——	BATTLE OF OUDENARDE	50
——	Siege of *Lisle*	51
——	Progress of the siege	52
——	BATTLE OF WYNENDALE	53
——	Surrender of the town of *Lisle*	—
——	Siege of the *Citadel of Lisle*	—
——	Passage of the *Scheldt*	54
——	Relief of Brussels	—
——	Surrender of the *Citadel of Lisle*	—
——	Siege and capture of *Ghent*	—
——	Occupation of Ghent for winter quarters	—
1709	March of the Regiment to Lisle	—
——	Siege of *Tournay*	—
——	Surrender of the town	—
——	Siege and capture of the Citadel	—
——	March of the Allies to besiege Mons	55
——	BATTLE OF MALPLAQUET	—
——	Siege and capture of *Mons*	57
——	Return of the Regiment to Ghent	—
1710	Marched to Tournay	—

Year		Page
1710	Passage of the French lines at *Pont-à-Vendin* .	57
——	Siege and capture of *Douay*	—
——	Casualties of the Regiment during the siege .	58
——	Encamped at Villars Brulin	—
——	Siege and surrender of *Bethune* . . .	—
——	———————— *Aire* and *St. Venant* .	—
——	March of the Regiment to Courtray for winter quarters.	—
1711	Marched to Douay	—
——	The successes of Alexander the Great compared with those of the Duke of Marlborough .	—
——	Passage of the French "*Ne plus ultra*" lines at *Arleux*	59
——	Siege and capture of *Bouchain* . . .	—
——	Charles III., the claimant to the Spanish throne, elected Emperor of Germany, and its effect upon the War with France . . .	—
——	Negotiations for Peace	60
1712	The Army encamped near Tournay . .	—
——	The Duke of Marlborough succeeded in the command of the Army by the Duke of Ormond .	—
——	March of the Allies towards France . .	—
——	Siege and surrender of *Quesnoy* . . .	—
——	Suspension of arms proclaimed . . .	—
——	Withdrawal of the British troops to Ghent .	—
——	Occupation of *Dunkirk*	—
——	Peace of Utrecht	61
——	Stipulations of the Treaty	—
1713	The Regiment embarked for England . .	—
1714	Stationed in Ireland	—
——	Styled the "*Prince of Wales's own Royal Regiment of Welsh Fusiliers*" . . .	—
1715	Disaffection of the Earl of Mar . . .	—
——	Rebellion in Scotland in favour of the Pretender	62
——	Removal of the Regiment to England . .	—

Year		Page
1715	Surrender of the Rebels at Preston	62
——	BATTLE OF SHERIFFMUIR	—
——	Arrival in Scotland of the Pretender	—
——	His flight to France	—
——	Suppression of the Rebellion	—
1716	The Regiment stationed in the Eastern Counties of England	—
1717	Designs of the King of Sweden in favour of the Pretender	—
1718	Formation of the "*Quadruple Alliance*"	63
——	War declared against Spain	—
1719	Spanish expedition in favour of the Pretender	—
——	Defeat of the insurgents at *Glenshiel*	—
——	Expedition against *Corunna*	—
——	Capture of *Vigo*, *Rondondella*, and *Pontevedra*	64
1720	Peace with Spain	—
1722	The Regiment stationed at Edinburgh	—
1723	Marched to London	—
——	Encamped in Hyde Park	—
1725	Returned to Edinburgh	—
1726	Stationed in England	—
1727	Commencement of hostilities by Spain	—
——	Siege of Gibraltar by the Spaniards	—
——	Cessation of hostilities	—
1728	The Regiment reviewed by King George II. at Hounslow	65
1729	Treaty of Peace concluded at Seville	—
1735	George Augustus Eliott, afterwards Lord Heathfield, the celebrated Governor of Gibraltar, joined the Regiment at Edinburgh	—
1739	Decease of General Sabine	—
——	Lieut.-Colonel Newsham Peers appointed Colonel of the Regiment	—
——	Spanish depredations in America	—
——	War declared against Spain	—

Year		Pag
1740	*War of the Austrian Succession* . . .	65
1741	The Regiment encamped on Lexden Heath .	67
1742	Reviewed by King George II., on Kew Green	—
——	Embarked for Flanders as Auxiliaries . .	—
1743	Marched towards the Rhine	68
——	BATTLE OF DETTINGEN	—
——	Decease of Colonel Peers	—
——	Major-General John Huske appointed Colonel of the Regiment	69
——	The Battle of Dettingen compared with other British victories	—
1744	Declaration of War against France. . .	70
——	French conquests in the Netherlands . .	—
1745	Investment of Tournay by Marshal Saxe . .	—
——	BATTLE OF FONTENOY	—
——	Rebellion in Scotland, headed by Prince Charles Edward.	71
——	Return of the Regiment to England . .	—
1746	BATTLE OF CULLODEN	—
——	Escape of Prince Charles to France . .	—
1747	The Regiment returned to the Netherlands .	—
——	BATTLE OF LAFFELD, or VAL . . .	72
1748	Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle	—
——	Stipulations of the Treaty	—
——	Return of the Regiment to England . .	73
1751	Regulations prescribed by Royal Warrant, for establishing uniformity in the clothing, standards, and colours of regiments, &c. .	—
1755	Embarkation of the Regiment for Minorca .	—
1756	*The Seven Years' War*	—
——	French expedition against Minorca . .	—
——	War declared against France . . .	75
——	Failure of Admiral Byng to relieve the garrison of Minorca	—
——	Surrender of Minorca to the French . .	76

Year		Page
1756	Eulogiums on the noble defence made by the garrison of Minorca	76
——	The Regiment proceeded to Gibraltar	77
——	Returned to England	—
——	Augmentations in the Army	—
1758	The second battalions formed into distinct corps, and numbered from sixty-first to the seventy-fifth Regiment	—
——	The *second battalion* of the TWENTY-THIRD constituted the *sixty-eighth* Regiment	—
——	Descent on the French coast.	—
——	The expedition landed at St. Maloes	—
——	Returned to Cancale Bay	78
——	Proceeded to Cherbourg	—
——	Returned to England	—
——	The Regiment embarked for Germany	79
——	Joined the allied army under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick	—
——	Marched to Munster for winter quarters	—
1759	BATTLE OF MINDEN	80
——	Eulogiums on the British Troops	81
——	Received the Royal Authority to bear the word MINDEN on the colours and appointments	82
——	The Regiment cantoned in Osnaburg	83
1760	Marched to Paderborn.	—
——	BATTLE OF WARBOURG.	—
——	March of the Regiment to the Lower Rhine to form part of the Army under the hereditary Prince of Brunswick	84
——	Investment of *Wesel*	—
——	Action at *Campen*	—
——	The siege of *Wesel* raised	85
——	The Regiment cantoned in the principality of Hesse	—
1761	Decease of General Huske	—

Year		Page
1761	Lieut.-General the Honorable George Boscawen appointed Colonel of the Regiment . .	85
——	Several towns taken by the Allies . . .	—
——	Battle of Kirch Denkern or Fellinghausen	—
——	Skirmishes in the Electorate of Hanover . .	86
——	The Regiment quartered in the bishopric of Osnaburg	—
1762	The French army surprised at *Graebenstein* .	87
——	Action of *Wilhelmstahl*	—
——	———— *Brucker-Muhl*, near *Amonebourg* .	88
1762	*Cassel* taken by the Allies	—
——	Suspension of hostilities proclaimed . .	—
——	Peace of Fontainebleau	—
——	Stipulations of the Treaty	—
1763	The thanks of Parliament communicated to the Army in Germany	89
——	Return of the Regiment to England . .	—
——	Stationed in Great Britain for ten years . .	—
1773	Embarked for North America . . .	—
1774	Stationed at Boston	—
1775	*War of American Independence* . . .	—
——	Action at *Lexington*	—
——	Decease of Lieut.-General the Honorable George Boscawen	90
——	Major-General the Honorable Sir William Howe, KB., appointed Colonel of the Regiment	91
——	Battle of Bunker's Hill	92
——	Casualties of the Regiment	93
1776	Siege of Boston by General Washington . .	—
——	Boston evacuated by the British . . .	—
——	Embarkation of the troops for Nova Scotia .	94
——	Sailed for Staten Island	—
——	Declaration of Independence by the American Congress	—

Year		Page
1776	Operations in *Long Island*	94
——	Occupation of *New York* by the British	—
——	Battle of White Plains	—
——	Reduction of *Fort Washington*	—
——	The Regiment stationed in winter quarters on New York Island	95
1777	Proceeded to Connecticut	—
——	Expedition to Danbury	—
——	The Army proceeded to Staten Island, and afterwards to New Jersey	96
——	Expedition to the Delaware and Chesapeake	—
——	Action at *Brandywine*	97
——	Occupation of Philadelphia	—
——	Action at Germantown	98
1778	Return of Lieut.-General the Honorable Sir William Howe to England	99
——	Lieut.-General Sir Henry Clinton assumed the command of the army in America	—
——	Evacuation of Philadelphia	—
——	Encamped at Freehold.	—
——	Action at *Monmouth Court-House*	—
——	Arrival of the British at New York	100
——	The Americans received aid from the French	—
——	The French fleet pursued by Admiral Lord Howe	—
——	The Regiment served as *Marines*	—
——	Gallant conduct while thus employed	101
1779	The Regiment sailed along the Hudson	102
——	Capture of *Fort Lafayette*, and of *Stony Point*	—
——	Expedition to Newhaven	—
——	Destruction of the enemy's stores	—
——	Return of the expedition to New York	—
——	Projected expedition to the West Indies	—
——	Expedition to Charlestown	—
1780	Siege and capture of *Charlestown*	103

Year		Page
1780	The Regiment attached to the force in South Carolina under Lieut.-General the Earl Cornwallis	104
——	Action at *Camden*	——
——	Gallant defence of *Polk's Mill* by Lieutenant Guyon of the 23rd Regiment	106
——	Toilsome march to Wynesborough	107
——	Operations for the defence of South Carolina	——
1781	Action at *Cowpens*	——
——	Toilsome march to the Fords of Catawba	——
——	Passage of the river	——
——	The Americans expelled from North Carolina	109
——	Action at *Guildford Court-House*	——
——	March of the British to Wilmington	111
——	The General Assembly of the State of Virginia surprised by a detachment of the Regiment	——
——	Affair near the river James	112
——	Defence of *York Town*	113
——	Earl Cornwallis capitulated to the Americans	114
——	Preservation of the colours of the Regiment	115
1782	The Independence of the United States acknowledged by King George III.	116
1783	Abstract of the Treaty of Peace	——
1784	Embarkation of the Regiment for England	——
1786	Lieut.-General, the Honorable Sir William Howe, appointed to the Nineteenth Light Dragoons	117
——	Major-General Richard Grenville appointed Colonel of the Regiment	——
1789	The Regiment employed on the King's duty at Windsor	——
——	The French Revolution	——
1793	War declared against England by France	——
——	Spread of republican principles to the French West India Islands	——

Year		Page
1794	Embarkation of the Regiment for St. Domingo.	117
——	Capture of *Port-au-Prince*	——
1796	Return of the Regiment to England . .	——
1798	Expedition to Ostend	——
1799	Embarkation of the Regiment for Holland .	——
——	Action upon landing	118
——	Engaged on the *Zype Dyke*	119
——	Action near Bergen	——
——	BATTLE OF ALKMAAR	120
——	Subsequent operations	——
——	Convention for the withdrawal of the British troops from Holland.	121
——	Part of the Regiment wrecked . . .	122
1800	The Regiment joined the fleet under Admiral Earl St. Vincent	123
——	Unsuccessful attempts on Ferrol and Vigo .	——
——	*Expedition to Egypt*	124
1801	Action on landing in Egypt	——
——	Attacked by the French while on the march to Alexandria	125
——	BATTLE OF ALEXANDRIA	——
——	Death of Lieut.-General Sir Ralph Abercromby	127
——	Advance of the main body of the Army on Cairo	——
——	Capitulation of *Alexandria*	——
——	Embarkation of the Regiment for Gibraltar .	——
——	The thanks of Parliament voted to the troops .	——
——	Received the Royal Authority to bear the SPHINX, with the word EGYPT, on the Regimental Colour and Appointments . .	——
——	Gold Medal presented to the officers by the Grand Seignior	——
1802	Peace of Amiens, and stipulations of the Treaty	——
1803	Renewal of the war with France . . .	128
——	Return of the Regiment from Gibraltar to England	——

Year		Page
1804	The threatened French invasion . . .	128
——	Augmentation of the Army	——
——	A *second* battalion added to the Regiment .	——
1805	The *first* battalion embarked on the expedition under Lieut.-General Don . . .	——
——	Occupation of Bremen	——
——	The troops recalled to England . . .	——
1807	The *first* battalion employed on the expedition to Copenhagen	——
——	Skirmishes on the march to Copenhagen . .	129
——	The *first* battalion quartered in the vicinity of Copenhagen	——
——	Returned to England	——
——	The *second* battalion embarked for Ireland .	——
1808	The *first* battalion embarked for Nova Scotia .	——
——	The *second* battalion proceeded to Spain . .	130
——	BATTLE OF CORUNNA	——
——	Received the Royal Authority to bear the word *Corunna* on the Regimental colour and appointments	——
——	Return of the *second* battalion to England .	——
——	Embarked for *Walcheren*	131
——	Returned to England	——
——	The *first* battalion formed part of the expedition to Martinique	——
1809	Capture of *Martinique*.	132
——	Received the Royal Authority to bear the word MARTINIQUE on the Regimental Colour and Appointments.	134
——	The *first* battalion returned to Nova Scotia .	——
1810	———————— embarked for the Peninsula .	——
1811	Action at *Redinha*	135
——	Surrender of *Olivença*	——
——	Siege of *Badajoz*	——
——	BATTLE OF ALBUHERA	136

Year		Page
1811	The Allied Army retired across the Guadiana .	139
——	Blockade of *Ciudad Rodrigo* . . .	——
——	Skirmishes at *Fuente Guinaldo* . . .	——
——	The enemy repulsed at *Aldea-de-Ponte* . .	——
——	Occupation of cantonments on the Portuguese frontier	140
1812	Capture of *Ciudad Rodrigo* . . .	——
——	The siege of *Badajoz* resumed . . .	——
——	Capture of *Badajoz*	142
——	Skirmish at *San Christoval*	143
——	BATTLE OF SALAMANCA	144
——	Triumphant march to Madrid . . .	——
——	The Regiment marched to Soutilla . .	145
1813	BATTLE OF VITTORIA	——
——	Retreat of the French across the Pyrenees .	——
——	Blockade of *Pampeluna*	——
——	Action near *Pampeluna*	146
——	Siege of *San Sebastian*	147
——	Actions in the *Pyrenees*	148
——	BATTLE OF THE NIVELLE	——
——	BATTLE OF THE NIVE	149
1814	The Regiment cantoned at Ustaritz . .	——
——	BATTLE OF ORTHES	——
——	BATTLE OF TOULOUSE	150
——	Sortie from *Bayonne*	151
——	Termination of the Peninsular War . .	——
——	Napoleon Bonaparte retired to Elba . .	——
——	The Regiment embarked for England . .	——
——	Received the Royal Authority to bear the words ALBUHERA, BADAJOZ, SALAMANCA, VITTORIA, PYRENEES, NIVELLE, ORTHES, TOULOUSE, and PENINSULA, on the Regimental Colour and Appointments.	——
——	Honors conferred on the Officers for their services during the Peninsular War . .	152

Year		Page
1814	Reduction of the *second* battalion	152
1815	Return of Napoleon Bonaparte to France	—
——	Embarkation of the Regiment for Flanders	—
——	BATTLE OF WATERLOO	153
——	Death of Colonel Sir Henry Ellis	—
——	Monument erected to his memory in Worcester Cathedral	154
——	The word WATERLOO authorised to be borne on the Regimental Colour and Appointments	155
——	March of the Allied Army for Paris	—
——	Occupation of Cambray	—
——	Encamped on the plain of St. Denis	—
——	The Regiment selected to form part of the "*Army of Occupation*"	—
1818	Withdrawal of the British troops from France	—
——	The Regiment stationed in Ireland.	—
1823	Decease of General Richard Grenville	156
——	Major-General Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart., appointed Colonel of the Regiment	—
——	Embarkation of the Regiment for Gibraltar	—
——	Complimentary general order issued previous to embarkation	—
1825	Formed into *service* and *depôt* companies	157
1826	The depôt companies embarked for Guernsey	—
——	———— returned to England	—
1827	Expedition to Portugal	—
1828	Return of the Regiment to Gibraltar	—
1830	The depôt companies embarked for Ireland	—
1834	The service companies embarked at Gibraltar for England, and joined by the depôt from Ireland	—
1836	Embarkation of the Regiment for Ireland	—
1838	The service companies embarked for Nova Scotia	—
1840	The depôt companies removed from Ireland to Great Britain	—

Year		Page
1840	The service companies proceeded to Canada .	157
1842	The Regiment again formed into two battalions.	—
——	Embarkation of the *reserve* battalion for Canada	158
1843	Embarkation of the *first* battalion for the West Indies	—
1844	Presentation of two Cashmere Goats to the Regiment by Her Majesty	—
1847	Result of the sanitary measures pursued in the West Indies	—
——	The *first* battalion embarked for Nova Scotia .	159
1848	—————————— England. .	—
1849	Presentation of New Colours by Prince Albert.	—
——	Address of His Royal Highness on the occasion	160
——	Reply of the Commanding Officer . . .	161
——	The Old Colours deposited in St. Peter's Church at Carmarthen	163
1850	THE CONCLUSION	—

PLATES.

Costume of the Regiment . . .	*to face page*	1
Costume of the Regiment in 1742 . .	,,	68
Monument to Colonel Sir Henry Ellis, KCB., in Worcester Cathedral	,,	154
Colours of the Regiment	,,	162

SUCCESSION OF COLONELS

OF

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

Year		Page
1689	Henry Lord Herbert	164
——	Charles Herbert.	——
1691	Toby Purcell	165
1692	Sir John Morgan, Bart.	——
1693	Richard Ingoldsby	——
1705	Joseph Sabine	166
1739	Newsham Peers	167
1743	John Huske	——
1761	The Honorable George Boscawen . . .	168
1775	William Viscount Howe, KB. . . .	——
1786	Richard Grenville	170
1823	Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart. . .	——

CONTENTS OF APPENDIX

TO

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

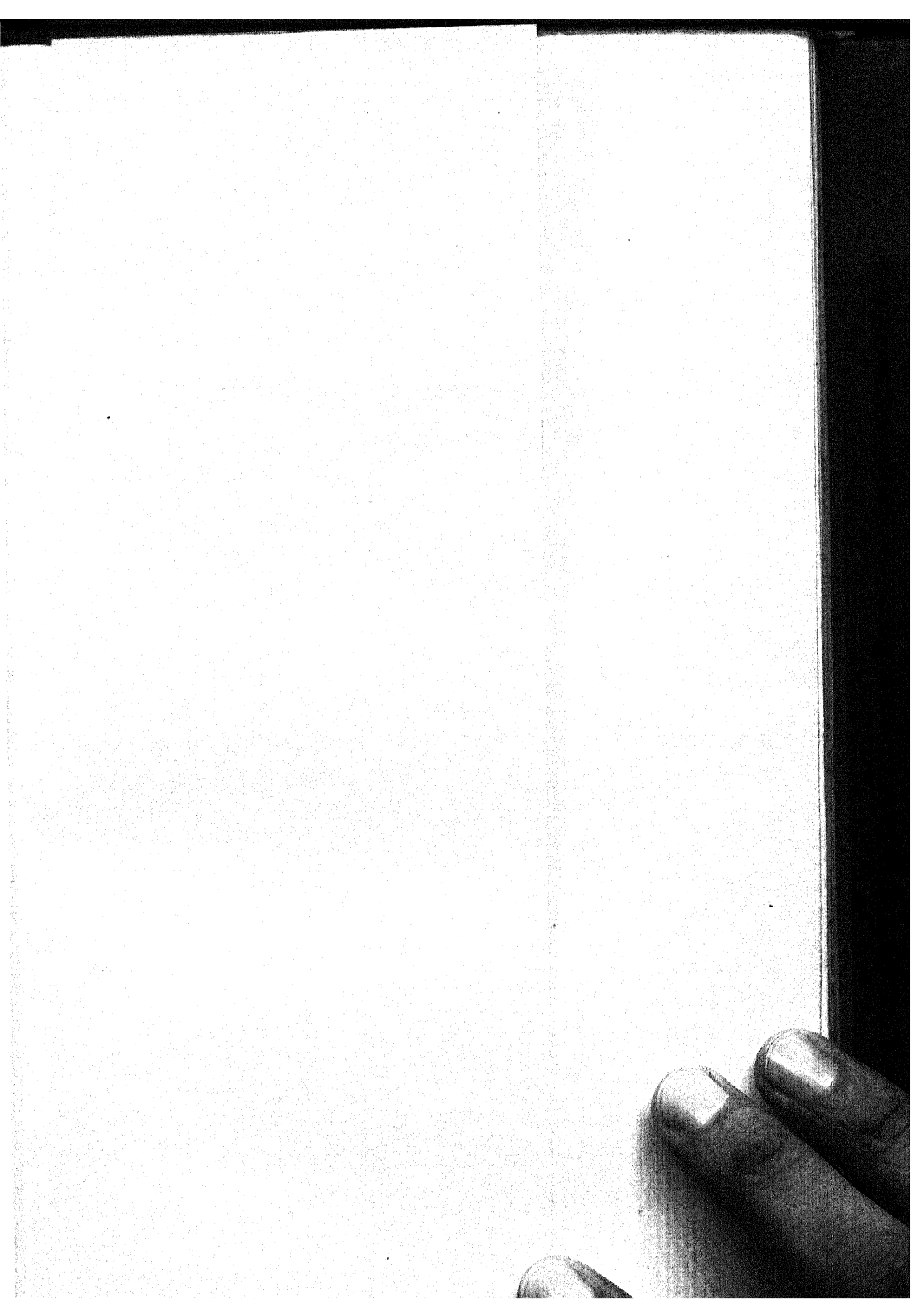
	Page
List of Battles, Sieges, &c., in the Netherlands, from 1689 to 1697	171
Definition of the Old and New Styles	—
List of Battles, Sieges, &c., in the Netherlands and Germany, from 1702 to 1713, during the "*War of the Spanish Succession*"	172
List of Battles, Sieges, &c., in Germany and the Netherlands, from 1743 to 1748, during the "*War of the Austrian Succession*"	174
List of British Regiments which served in Flanders and Germany, between the years 1742 and 1748, during the "*War of the Austrian Succession*"	175
Names of the officers belonging to the Regiment on the 1st of August, 1759, the date of the Battle of MINDEN	176
Ancient custom of the Regiment being preceded by a Goat with gilded horns, and adorned with ringlets of flowers	177
General Order relating to the campaign in Egypt in 1801	178
List of Regiments, and names of the Commanding Officers, employed in Egypt	180

Page

General Orders, dated 18th of January and 1st of February 1809, relating to the Battle of CORUNNA, and death of Lieut.-General Sir John Moore . . 182

List of Regiments, and the names of their Commanding Officers, which composed the Army under Lieut.-General Sir John Moore 186

Letter to Colonel Pearson, from Major-General Sir Willoughby Gordon, Bart., on his appointment to the Colonelcy of the Regiment 187





THE TWENTY THIRD REGIMENT, OR THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

For Cannon's Military Records

Madeley 16th. S. Wellington St. Strand.



THE TWENTY THIRD REGIMENT,

0.63

HISTORICAL RECORD

OF

THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF FOOT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

THE attempts of King James II. to subvert the Pro- 1688
testant Establishment, contrary to his declaration on ascending the throne, caused great disaffection amongst his subjects, and at length terminated in the Revolution of 1688. This event was hastened by the birth of the Prince of Wales, afterwards designated "The Pretender,"* which occurrence destroyed the hopes of the Protestants, who had expected that relief would arise to the nation on the decease of James II. by the accession of the King's eldest daughter, the Princess Mary, Consort of the Prince of Orange, Stadtholder of the United Provinces.

The Prince of Orange was regarded as the Military defender of the Protestant cause in Europe, and the principal nobility and gentry, with a portion of the clergy, invited the Prince over to England to aid them in securing their religion, civil liberty, and legislation.

In October the Prince of Orange sailed from Holland, but was driven back by a storm. The Prince, however,

* On the morning of Sunday the 10th of June, 1688, the Queen was delivered of a child, James Francis Edward, who was designated in England "The Pretender," on the decease of King James II. at St. Germains, on the 16th September, 1701, when his son was encouraged to assert his *pretensions* to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland.

1688 again set sail on the 1st November, and landed at Torbay on the 5th of that month. The Prince was gladly welcomed by the nation, and was shortly joined by the principal persons of the kingdom, including Lord Churchill, afterwards the renowned Duke of Marlborough, the Duke of Grafton, and several other noblemen.

Perceiving that the army, and the nation generally, were strongly attached to the Protestant religion, as by law established, King James fled to France on the 10th December, and was afforded an asylum in that country by Louis XIV.

1689 On the 13th of February, 1689, the Prince and Princess of Orange were proclaimed as King William III. and Queen Mary, and were shortly afterwards crowned at Westminster.

A formidable opposition was, however, offered to the Revolution by the adherents of the exiled monarch in Ireland, where the majority, being Roman Catholics, naturally regarded his cause as their own. King James, being assisted by the King of France with men, money, and a fleet, resolved to proceed to Ireland, for which country, accompanied by his natural son the Duke of Berwick, and certain other adherents, he embarked from France, and having landed at Kinsale on the 12th March, 1689, soon afterwards made his public entry into Dublin.

These circumstances rendered it necessary to augment the army, and the following twelve regiments were at this period raised to aid in the deliverance of Ireland from the power of King James; three of which have been since retained on the establishment of the army, namely, the twenty-second, TWENTY-THIRD, ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, and twenty-fourth regiments. The remaining nine regiments, namely, Erle's, Kingston's, Drogheda's, Gower's, Ingoldsby's, Lovelace's, Roscommon's, Lisburne's, and Hastings's, were subsequently disbanded.

On the 17th of March, 1689, King William III.

authorised Henry Lord Herbert to raise a regiment of 1689
infantry; some circumstances, however, occurred, which prevented His Lordship from assuming the duties of his appointment, and the colonelcy was conferred on his relative, CHARLES HERBERT, on the 10th of April following.

The regiment was formed of men raised in Wales and in the adjacent counties; and consisted of thirteen companies, of three serjeants, two drummers, three corporals, and sixty private soldiers each; the head quarters were fixed at Ludlow, in Shropshire; and the regiment, which forms the subject of this memoir, now bears the title of "THE TWENTY-THIRD, or THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS."

The recruiting of the regiment was attended with success, and in a few months it was brought into a state of fitness for military duty.

The Highlanders of Scotland at first supported the cause of King James, but gave in their adherence to the existing government, shortly after their defeat at Killicrankie on the 27th of July, 1689, in which battle their leader, the Viscount Dundee, was killed.

Meanwhile the Protestants in the north of Ireland, particularly the inhabitants of the towns of Inniskilling and Londonderry, determined to make resistance, and to require aid from England. In order to afford this assistance, Cunningham's (9th) and Richards's (17th) regiments had been sent in April to the relief of Londonderry, which was besieged by King James, but returned to England in consequence of Colonel Lundy, the Governor of Londonderry, reporting that the garrison would be compelled to surrender, on account of a scarcity of provisions, and a resolution was passed against the landing of the two regiments. These statements proved incorrect; for after the flight of the Governor, the town made a gallant and successful defence under the Reverend George Walker,

1689 and Major Baker. The Queen Dowager's (2nd foot) Stewart's (9th foot), and Hanmer's (11th foot), towards the end of May, proceeded under Major-General Kirke, to make a second attempt for the relief of Londonderry. On the 31st of July, King James was compelled to raise the siege, having lost 9000 men, and many of his best officers before the place. The besieged also suffered a loss of 3000 men, chiefly by famine and disease. King William considering that Colonels Cunningham and Richards had not sufficiently investigated the state of the fortress, deprived them of their commissions.

On the 12th of August, Marshal Frederick Duke de Schomberg embarked with several of the newly-raised regiments for Ireland.* The troops anchored in the

* Regiments which proceeded to Ireland :—

Horse.		Dragoons.	
Lanier's	1st Dragoon Guards	Hayford's	1st Royal Dragoons
Villiers's	2nd ditto	Leveson's	3rd Dragoons
Coy's	5th ditto		
Hewitt's	6th ditto		
Cavendish's	7th ditto		
Delamere's, Langston's	afterwards disbanded.		

Infantry.

Beaumont's	8th Foot	Erle's	afterwards disbanded.
Wharton's	12th ditto	Kingston's	
Hastings'	13th ditto	Drogheda's	
Meath's	18th ditto	Gower's	
Hamilton's	20th ditto	Ingoldsby's	
Duke of Norfolk's	22nd ditto	Lovelace's	
Herbert's	23rd ditto	Roscommon's	
Deering's	24th ditto	Lisburne's	
		Hastings's	

The second and sixth Dragoon Guards embarked at Highlake for Ireland in September. The first Dragoon Guards, Royal Dragoons, and thirteenth regiment of foot, proceeded from Scotland to Ireland in October, 1689.

The Duke of Schomberg's French regiment of Horse, two battalions of Dutch Guards, and the three French Regiments of La Melonière, Du Cambon, and La Caillemote also formed part of the army in Ireland.

Bay of Carrickfergus in the afternoon of the 13th of August, and landed without opposition. The siege of Carrickfergus was afterwards commenced, and, before the end of the month, the garrison surrendered. 1689

While the siege of Carrickfergus was being carried on, the remainder of the troops, which for want of ships had been detained, embarked at Highlake, near Chester; the TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the division, which disembarked at Belfast on the 30th of August.

Upon the approach of the Duke de Schomberg, the Irish burnt and abandoned *Newry*, retiring thence to *Dundalk*, which place the Irish also abandoned, and retreated to *Ardee*, where they had assembled a considerable force.

The Duke de Schomberg finding Dundalk a strong position, with a good harbour, resolved to establish himself there, where he was joined by the second, ninth, and eleventh regiments of foot. The Dutch erected for themselves huts and other conveniences, so as to be provided against the inclemency of the weather; but the English, being at that period inexperienced soldiers, and unused to the difficulties and privations inseparable from field-service, omitted, until it was too late, to procure timber, straw, and other materials necessary for the construction of buildings. The wet season set in, and a severe winter succeeded; the army consequently suffered much from sickness, and the Duke de Schomberg found himself obliged to break up his encampment, and to proceed northward, with the loss of a considerable portion of his troops by disease.

After passing the winter in garrison, the army took the field in the spring of 1690. King William III., having determined to take the command of the army in person, embarked at Highlake on the 11th June, and landed at Carrickfergus on the 14th of that month, accompanied by Prince George of Denmark, the Duke 1690

1690 of Ormond, the Earl of Oxford, and other chief officers of his army, which exceeded thirty thousand men.

On the 30th June, the English army, marching in three lines passed *Ardee*, and the advanced guard of horse, under Sir John Lanier, halted on the banks of the river *Boyne,* on the opposite side of which King James's forces were strongly posted, and formed in order of battle.

King William proceeded to reconnoitre the position of the Irish army, and as he approached the ford at the pass of Old-bridge, where he intended to force a passage, the Irish opened their fire from a battery of six-pounders, and killed some troopers and horses; a spent cannon-ball grazed the King's right shoulder, bruising it considerably.

At a Council of War held on the night of the 30th June, it was resolved that the English army should attempt the passage of the river. Accordingly, at break of day on the 1st of July, the whole army was in motion, every man having a green bough, or sprig, fastened in his hat, to distinguish him from the Irish, who wore bits of white paper

A practicable ford below Slane-bridge having been discovered, the right wing passed the river at that point. King James perceiving this movement, strengthened his left flank, and his army was drawn up in two lines to receive the English. King William then ordered his infantry to pass at Old-bridge, which was performed very gallantly, the Dutch guards leading the way through the water, though opposed to a sharp fire of musketry; the left wing at the same time passing the river between the Irish camp and Drogheda.

The Duke de Schomberg, at the head of a corps of infantry, advanced to the attack, when he himself was beset by a party of Irish horse, which had broken through one of his regiments; the infantry he was leading fired a

volley at the Irish dragoons, while they were engaged with the Duke, and unfortunately shot him dead: this accident produced much disorder as well as regret. 1690

King James's army gave way, and fled in confusion; but King William, though strongly urged by some of his General Officers to pursue the Irish, was unwilling to do so. King James fled to Dublin that evening, and soon after re-embarked for France; but the Irish Roman Catholics, aided by the French troops, adhered to his interest.*

On the 2nd of July, the day following the memorable Battle of the Boyne, King William sent a detachment of his army, consisting of horse and foot, with eight pieces of cannon, to summon *Drogheda*, which surrendered on the same day.

King William marched to Bally-Breghan on the 3rd of July, and encamped there, and on receiving advice of King James having quitted the capital, sent the Duke of Ormond, the colonel of the second troop of Life Guards, with one thousand horse, to take possession of the out-posts of Dublin, and the Dutch guards to occupy the Castle. On the 5th of July, His Majesty marched forward, and encamped within two miles of Dublin, and on the 7th and 8th the King reviewed the army at Finglass.

On the 9th of July, the King marched the greater portion of his army beyond Dublin, with the intention of proceeding westward, and sent five regiments of cavalry, and ten of infantry, under Lieutenant-General Douglas, towards *Athlone*, for the purpose of investing it; but finding the place stronger than had been reported, and having learnt that fifteen thousand men were advancing to relieve the town, the Lieut.-General marched back, and rejoined the army.

* The spurs worn by Major Toby Purcell at the *Battle of the Boyne*, are still preserved in the regiment, in possession of the senior Major for the time being.

1690 A detachment of the King's army was sent to besiege *Waterford* on the 24th of July, the garrison of which surrendered without waiting for an attack. *Fort Duncannon*, seven miles below Waterford, surrendered also at the same time.

On the 27th of July, King William left the quarters of the army, and proceeded to Dublin. After being engaged three days in civil affairs, His Majesty returned to the army, and marched towards *Limerick*, in front of which city the Irish had formed a strong camp. On the morning of the 3rd of August, a detachment of eleven hundred men advanced within cannon-shot of the town, and drove three regiments of Irish cavalry and two of infantry from their entrenchments: six days afterwards the King's army compelled the Irish to retire under the guns of the fortifications, and in the evening the place was formally summoned; a breach having been effected, an attempt was made to carry the place by storm, but the Irish soldiers made so vigorous a resistance that they succeeded in repulsing the assailants.

A party of the enemy's cavalry under Major-General Sarsfield crossed the Shannon, and surprised a detachment of artillery then on the march to join the army under King William, which was attended by a guard of insufficient strength; General Sarsfield collected the guns, ammunition, and carriages into a heap and set fire to them, on which occasion King William's loss was considerable, both in men and provisions. Major-General Sir John Lanier had been ordered to proceed with the Queen's Regiment of Horse (now First Dragoon Guards) to *Cullen* to intercept the enemy, but he arrived too late to prevent the destruction of the convoy, and the Irish effected their escape, retiring by way of Athlone.

On the 30th of August, King William was induced

to raise the siege of *Limerick*, and to direct the troops to 1690
be sent into quarters. Fatigue, with excessive rains, which had impaired the health of the troops, rendered it necessary to afford them relief from the laborious services in which they were engaged.

King William returned to England on the 5th of September, leaving the COUNT SOLMS in command of the army.

In the month of September a detachment of the King's army, under Major-General Kirke, marched to *Birr*, and laid siege to the castle. On the advance of the British troops the Irish retired.

During the winter, detachments of the King's regiments were frequently engaged in skirmishes and rencounters with bands of armed Catholic peasantry, designated "*Rapparees.*"

King William, being zealous in his efforts to resist 1691
the ambition and power of Louis XIV., had, in the spring of 1689, caused several British regiments* under the Earl of Marlborough, to be sent to Flanders, in order to unite with other nations in checking the designs of France. His Majesty resolved therefore to leave the settlement of his affairs in Ireland to General de Ghinkel, and the other General Officers employed with

* List of troops sent to the Netherlands in 1689, under the Earl of Marlborough.

Second troop of Guards, now 2nd Life Guards.

Royal Regiment of Horse Guards

One battalion of the 2nd Foot Guards.

One battalion of the Scots Foot Guards, now Scots Fusilier Guards

One battalion of the First or Royal Regiment.

The Prince George of Denmark's Regiment, now 3rd foot, or the Buffs.

Seventh Royal Fusiliers.

Colonel John Hale's Regiment, afterwards disbanded.

Colonel Sir David Collier's Regiment, afterwards disbanded.

Colonel Robert Hodges's Regiment, now 16th Foot.

Colonel Edward Fitzpatrick's Regiment, afterwards disbanded.

Colonel Fergus O'Farrell's Regiment, now 21st Royal North British Fusiliers.

1691 the British army in that country, and to proceed to Flanders, in order to take measures preparatory to the opening of the campaign in 1691. His Majesty accordingly embarked in January, 1691, and proceeded to the Hague, where he was received with acclamations of joy by the people, for the safe return among them of a Prince, who had encountered so many dangers in his expedition in 1688; in a victorious campaign in Ireland in the year 1690; and who, after an absence of two years from his native country, had again come among them.

Immediately after His Majesty's arrival, the Prince and Plenipotentiaries from the several states forming the Grand Alliance, assembled in Congress at His Majesty's palace, in order to concert the most advisable plans for preventing the French, who had already gained possession of many strong forts and towns in the Netherlands, from becoming masters of the places remaining, if a prompt and sincere union was not established to check the enemy's conquests, and to preserve the liberties of Europe.

The great Congress broke up in March, and King William hearing of the advance of Louis XIV. to *Mons* with a numerous army, ordered Prince Waldeck to the general rendezvous at Halle. Towards the end of March, King William followed, and formed an army of fifty thousand men.

In April, *Mons* surrendered to the French, whereupon King William returned to the Hague, and from thence to England, where he arrived on the 13th of April. In May, the King again proceeded to Holland, and arrived at the Hague on the 3rd of that month.

Notwithstanding the victory of the Boyne on the 1st July, 1690, and the withdrawal of King James from Ireland, the state of that country was far from being

settled, and from being reduced under King William's 1691
authority; the great mass of the Irish people were still attached to the cause of King James, and strong reinforcements had arrived from France under General St. Ruth, an officer of reputation.

About the beginning of May, General the Baron de Ghinkel, who had served in the preceding year under the late Duke de Schomberg, had been appointed to succeed Count Solms in the office of Commander-in-Chief, and had assumed the command of the army in Ireland, which consisted of about 20,000 men of six different nations, English, Scots, French, Dutch, Germans, and Danes, under the following offices, viz.—

English . . .	Major-General Thomas Talmash.
Scots	Major-General Hugh Mackay.
French . . .	The Marquis de Ruvigné, and Major-General La Melonière.
Dutch. . . .	The Count of Nassau.
Germans . . .	The Prince of Hesse Darmstadt,
Danes. . . .	Major-General De Tettau.

The cavalry and infantry were respectively under the orders of Major-General de Schravemore and Lieut.-General the Duke of Wirtemberg; the chief command was held by General the Baron de Ghinkel.

The Irish had assembled a considerable force at *Ballymore*, and General de Ghinkel and Major-General Sir John Lanier advanced from Streamstown with a body of cavalry and infantry. On the advance of the King's troops the Irish fled with precipitation, and were pursued towards the moat of Grenoque, and from thence to a hill where their main body was drawn up, whence they subsequently retreated into the town, at the entrance of which they had thrown up a trench; but not finding it defensible, they abandoned the place. The English army encamped at Mullingar, and on the 6th of

1691 June besieged *Ballymore*, which surrendered on the 8th of the same month.

After the capture of *Ballymore*, the Duke of Wirtemburg was ordered to advance, and to join the main body of the army, about four miles from Ballymore, on the road to *Athlone*. This was a large and well-fortified town, fifty-five miles west of Dublin, situated on the river Shannon, which divided it into two unequal portions. The King's army arrived at this place on the 19th of June, and on the following day drove the garrison, composed of native Irish, across the bridge to the larger (or Connaught) division of the town, where they sheltered themselves in strong works erected during the last year by a French engineer officer in the service of King James, and were supported by General St. Ruth's army of 25,000 French, encamped within a short distance of the town.

Notwithstanding these obstacles, the Baron de Ghinkel resolved to force the passage of the river, and gain the other portion of the city. Several days were employed in the erection of batteries to cover the passage of the troops, and in attempts to repair the arch of the bridge, which the Irish had broken down on their retreat. The arrangements being finally completed, at six o'clock on the morning of the 2nd of July, 1691, a body of two thousand men prepared for the daring, if not desperate, enterprise of crossing, in the face of the enemy, a rapid river, passable only during the heat of the summer when the water was low, and then but for a space barely sufficient to admit twenty men abreast. One of the six regiments employed on this occasion was Major-General Mackay's own regiment of the Scots Brigade, which was commanded by his nephew, Colonel Æneas Mackay.

After seeing the advance enter the water under Colonel Gustavus Hamilton, of the 20th regiment, and the gallant young Prince Henry of Hesse Darmstadt, Major-General Mackay, having stationed an aide-de-camp on the bank to repeat his instructions to each regiment as it entered the river, fearlessly plunged into it himself under a hot fire of grape and musketry. As soon as they gained the opposite bank, the soldiers, animated by the example of their commanders, scrambled up the bank as they best could, one helping another. Having gained the summit, they formed in two divisions, one of which, led by Major-General Mackay, moved to the right, and the other by Major-General de Tettau to the left, both scouring the ramparts and driving all before them, until they met on the other side of the town, to the utter dismay of the garrison and of the inhabitants. Of the former 1000 were slain, and within an hour the King's troops were in possession of the town, the guns of which were turned on the astonished St. Ruth, who little expected the passage of the Shannon to be forced, or the city of *Athlone* to be captured. This bold and hazardous undertaking was thus brought to a successful issue with the loss of about fifty men only. 1691

Finding it in vain to attempt to dislodge General de Ghinkel's troops from the city, General St. Ruth retreated in the direction of Ballinasloe, and on being followed, he assumed a strong position, three miles further, near the village of *Aghrim*, where he determined to make a stand. A skirmish took place between the Irish outposts and Cunningham's (6th Inniskilling) Dragoons, which regiment had been sent forward to dislodge the Irish from some garden grounds, about a mile distant from the enemy's right, which it was deemed expedient to occupy by the left wing of the British.

1691 In the first place, Eppinger's Danish Dragoons were ordered to move forward as a support; but the Irish being disinclined to give way, the whole left wing was ordered forward to occupy the disputed ground.

About two hours afterwards, Major-General Mackay ordered four regiments, Brewer's (12th), Erle's (19th), Herbert's (23rd), and Crichton's to advance: he then moved himself with the regiments of Kirke (2nd Foot), Gustavus Hamilton (20th). Sir Henry Bellasis (22nd), and Lord George Hamilton's, and drove the enemy from the lines of hedges in front, and from the right and left of the castle of Aghrim. By the bold and judicious attacks of the combined forces, and by the timely aid of the cavalry, consisting of the Royal Horse Guards (Blues), the 2nd Dragoon Guards, the 3rd Dragoon Guards, and other corps under the command of Major-General de Schravemore, the castle of *Aghrim* was taken. The French General *St. Ruth* was killed by a cannon shot before the commencement of the general attack, which took place about seven o'clock in the evening of the 12th of July.

The TWENTY-THIRD, now the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, suffered severely in the battle of Aghrim; their Colonel, Charles Herbert, was taken prisoner, and inhumanly murdered by the Irish, when they saw he was likely to be rescued. The regiment had also three captains, and thirty-two rank and file killed; and one lieutenant and forty-five rank and file wounded. On the 13th of July, Lieutenant-Colonel Toby Purcell was promoted to the colonelcy of the regiment, in succession to Colonel Herbert.

On the following day the whole army encamped a mile beyond the field of battle on the road to Loughrea; detachments were sent to besiege the Castle of *Banagher*

and to occupy the pass of *Portumna ;* the army after- 1691
wards marched to *Loughrea* and thence to *Athenry.*

General de Ghinkel subsequently proceeded to *Galway,* which, next to Limerick, was the most considerable place in the possession of the partisans of King James. Having posted his forces before Galway, the Governor, Lord Dillon, was summoned to surrender the town, but refused, stating that the garrison were resolved to defend the place to the last extremity. The General, however, had no sooner marched a portion of his army across the river, and captured the fort which the Irish were building, than the besieged beat a parley. Hostages were exchanged, but the garrison demurring as to the manner of surrendering, General de Ghinkel became impatient, and sent orders for them to come to a speedy conclusion. The articles were at last agreed upon, and the town was surrendered, the garrison marching out on the 26th of July. By the capitulation it was agreed that such of the garrison as desired, were to proceed to Limerick, for which purpose Monsieur D'Usson, the French Lieutenant-General, received permission to depart thither, three hours before the remainder of the garrison marched out of Galway.

The TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS was one of the regiments selected to take possession of Galway on the surrender of that town, and remained there until the 23rd of November, when it marched from thence to Kinsale, and embarked for England, where it arrived in December following.

On the 28th of July, the army proceeded towards *Limerick,* where the English arrived on the 25th of August, and on the same day captured Forts Ireton and Cromwell, which were ordered to be named Mackay's and Nassau's, by whom they were gained. A vigorous

1691 defence was made by the garrison, but at this period the war languished in Ireland, the French monarch being unable to furnish reinforcements, which were required in the Netherlands, where the liberties of Europe were to be contested. The absence of King James from Ireland, and the death of Earl Tyrconnel, the devoted adherent of the Stuarts, materially contributed to the settlement of affairs in Ireland; the garrison of *Limerick* defended the place until the 3rd of October, when the city surrendered to General de Ghinkel upon honorable terms, with the castles of *Ross* and *Clare*, and all other places and castles that were in possession of the Irish. The fall of Limerick terminated the war in Ireland, and gave a final blow to the cause of King James.

King William returned from Holland in October, 1691, and arrived at Kensington on the 19th of that month, being welcomed with every demonstration of joy by his English subjects, increased by the successes gained in Ireland by General de Ghinkel, and the news which had been just received of the surrender of Limerick, which terminated the war in that country.

The Generals, Baron de Ghinkel, and the Marquis de Ruvigné, were subsequently raised to the Irish Peerage, the former by the title of *Earl of Athlone* and *Viscount Aghrim*, and the latter by the style of *Baron Galway*, in honor of their services to King William and Queen Mary during this momentous struggle.

The affairs of Great Britain and Ireland being at this time in a settled state, King William was enabled to devote his attention to the grand confederacy, of which he had been the principal mover, against the projects of the French court. With this view, His Majesty again embarked for Holland on the 5th March, 1692.

On the 20th April, 1692, Sir John Morgan, Bart., 1692
was appointed to the Colonelcy of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment, in succession to Colonel Toby Purcell, deceased. During the year 1692, the regiment was stationed in England.

In May, Marshal the Duke of Luxemburg laid siege to *Namur*, with an army of one hundred and twenty thousand men, and was speedily followed by the French King, accompanied by a magnificent *cortége* of the princes, princesses, lords, ladies, and others of the French court.

Namur had always been considered one of the strongest fortifications in Europe, and it had recently been strengthened with additional works, under the direction of *Cohorn*, a celebrated Dutch engineer, who was employed in its defence. To him was opposed *Vauban*, a French engineer of equal celebrity, whose works at *Lisle* and *Tournay* have always excited the admiration of competent judges. The spectacle, thus exhibited, was novel and imposing, inasmuch as the two most powerful Monarchs of Europe, headed their respective armies, while the two greatest Engineers of the age put forth their utmost efforts of genius and science combined, in opposition to each other. *Cohorn* was dangerously wounded during the siege.

King William advanced with his army to relieve the town, but the march being impeded by heavy rains, which occasioned an overflow of the rivers, his object was frustrated, and the garrison was forced to surrender on the 1st of July, after an obstinate resistance. King Louis was elated with his success, and returned in triumph to Paris, to receive the congratulations of his subjects.

King William was encamped at Melle when the Castle

1692 of Namur surrendered to the French, from whence His Majesty marched his army to Genappe, and on the 1st of August, crossed the river Senne, when he was joined by eight thousand Hanoverian troops.

The King of France, satisfied with the glory of having taken Namur, left the command of his army to the Duke of Luxemburg, who encamped in an advantageous position, covered by a wood and thick hedges, between Enghien and *Steenkirk*, where King William resolved to attack the enemy. The second in command to King William was the Count Solms, and under him were the Duke of Wirtemberg, and the Elector of Bavaria. Lieut.-General Hugh Mackay commanded the British infantry. A battle took place at *Steenkirk* on the 3rd of August, in which the confederate forces, who were the assailants, sustained a loss of five thousand men in killed and wounded. Among the killed were Lieutenant-General Hugh Mackay; Colonels Sir John Lanier, First Dragoon-Guards; Sir Robert Douglas, First Royals; Robert Hodges, Sixteenth Foot; the Earl of Angus, Twenty-sixth Foot; and many other distinguished officers. The French lost, in this battle, the Prince of Turenne, the Marquis of Belleford, the Marquis of Tilldet, and many other officers of rank, with above two thousand men killed, and three thousand wounded and taken prisoners.

In September, 1692, the towns of *Furnes* and *Dixmude* were taken by the British troops, and in the following month the army proceeded to its winter quarters, and His Majesty returned from the Hague to London.

1693 In the early part of the year 1693, Colonel Sir John Morgan died, and on the 28th of February, His Majesty was pleased to promote Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Ingoldsby, from the Eighteenth regiment, to the Colonelcy of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

Towards the end of March, King William proceeded 1693
to Holland, and assumed the command of the confederate forces.

In July, King William detached a portion of the army, in order to proceed, under the Duke of Wirtemberg, for the attack of the enemy's fortified lines between the rivers Scheldt and Lys. After a march of eight days, the troops arrived in front of the lines, near *D'Otignies*, and on the following day, the works were attacked at three points. After forcing these lines, on the 10th of July, at *D'Otignies*, the Duke of Wirtemberg levied contributions on the territory subject to France, as far as Lisle.

While these operations were carried on, King William determined to attack the Duke of Luxemburg; His Majesty accordingly encountered the French army on the 29th of July, 1693, at *Neer-Winden*, or *Landen*, a town of the Austrian Netherlands, seated on the river Becke, twenty miles from Namur, where the allied army was defeated. Count Solms had his leg shot off by a cannon-ball, was taken prisoner, and died in a few hour afterwards. The Duke of Berwick was taken prisoner by the English in this battle. The French were superior in numbers to the confederate forces during the whole of the campaign. In the midst of their victories, the enemy's troops were suffering from a dreadful famine, which afflicted France, and King Louis endeavoured to conclude a separate peace with some of the allies, but without success.

No further service of importance occurred during the year 1693, and in October the army marched into winter quarters in Flanders. In the same month, King William returned to England.

The campaign of 1694 was opened in the month of 1694
May, when King William again embarked from England,

1694 and placed himself at the head of the confederate army in Flanders.

Additional battalions had been sent from England during the preceding winter, to augment the army in Flanders, and in the early part of the year 1694, four regiments of infantry, namely, Lloyd's (5th Foot), St. George's (17th), Frederick Hamilton's (18th), and Ingoldsby's (TWENTY-THIRD), embarked, and were for a time disposed in quarters in Ostend and Nieuport.

The famine which had prevailed in France, and in the conquered portions of Flanders, in the preceding year, had prevented the French monarch from taking active measures for prosecuting the war, by replacing the casualties of men and horses sustained in the previous year, and a scarcity of money (the prime sinew of war) was the grand cause of the diminished exertions on the part of France.

During this period, the allies had increased their forces by raising new levies, recruiting the losses sustained in the battle of Landen, and in the campaign of the previous year, in the hope to turn the scale of the war, which had hitherto been in favour of the French King.

The Marshals of France, Luxemburg and Villeroy, assumed the command of the French army, under the Dauphin of France, whom King Louis had appointed Generalissimo of his forces. The Dauphin was accompanied by the Dukes of Chartres and Bourbon, and other princes of the blood royal.

The French being informed of the march of the confederate army to the camp at *Valduc*, passed the river Sambre on the 4th of June, and encamped at *Gemblours*, where the Dauphin took up his quarters, and disposed his forces in order of battle. No general engagement, how-

ever, took place, but the confederate army performed 1694
many long and tedious marches, in order to counteract the operations of the enemy.

As the French were masters of *Huy*, from whence they incommoded Liege, the frontier town of the confederate forces, it was determined to expel the enemy from Huy, the possession of which place enabled the French to march, and subsist their army as far as Maestricht.

It was, however, necessary to act with great caution, otherwise the removal of the confederate forces to the vicinity of Huy might have enabled the French to possess themselves of Liege, and other populous towns in Brabant.

Accordingly, while the French army was entrenched near Courtray, from whence they had strong detachments to cover Ypres, Menin, Bruges, Furnes, and Dunkirk, King William determined to dispossess the enemy of the town and castle of *Huy*. In pursuance of this design, the Prince Tserclaes de Tilley passed the Maese, and invested the place with all the horse and dragoons of the bishopric of Liege, a party of Brandenburg horse, and some battalions of foot. Sixteen regiments of foot, with the Duke of Holstein-Ploen, who was appointed to command at the siege, afterwards arrived, at whose approach the town surrendered, but the castle held out. By the 19th of September the batteries were raised against the castle; on the 21st the trenches were opened, and the attacks were so vigorously carried on, that all things being ready for an assault by the 27th September, the French governor beat a parley, and surrendered on the following day. This conquest expelled the French from the bishopric of Liege, and no further operations took place during the year 1694. King William returned to England in November, and the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments repaired to their winter quarters at Bruges.

1695 In May, 1695, King William returned to Holland, and the opposing armies commenced taking the field. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment was formed in brigade with the Fifth, Seventh, Eighteenth, Collingwood's (afterwards disbanded), and La Melonière's regiment of French Protestants in the English service, under Brigadier-General Fitzpatrick.

Arseele was appointed as the general rendezvous of King William's army, but the King's design was to besiege Namur, which had surrendered to the French on the 1st of July, 1692.

On the 12th of June, 1695, the confederate army marched in four columns from Arseele to Rouselaer, and from thence to Becelar, in the vicinity of the enemy's lines between the Ypre and the Lys. On the 13th of June in the evening, the King proceeded to reconnoitre the enemy's lines, about three miles distant, with an escort of horse, and all the grenadiers that had arrived, commanded by Major-General La Melonière, and the English by Colonel Ingoldsby (TWENTY-THIRD regiment) and Lieut.-Colonel Rook. The King returned late to the camp, and the artillery, baggage, and rear-guard did not arrive until midnight.

Marshal Villeroy, who succeeded to the command of the French army on the decease of the Duke of Luxemburg, which occurred early in the year 1695, seeing his lines thus threatened, had passed the Scheldt and the Lys, and posted his head-quarters at Houthem near the Lys. The French had provided in the winter for such quick marches, by making royal ways (as they were termed) from Mons to the sea, in order to facilitate the marches of their army, by cutting and pulling down all they met, without any regard to houses or villages, so that a squadron could march abreast on these roads.

In the preceding year, King William had remained 1695
satisfied with arresting the progress of the French arms, but he now determined to recover the strong and important fortress of *Namur* from the power of Louis XIV. As a diversion to favour the operations of the main army, King William detached certain regiments to threaten *Fort Knocque*, a fortress at the junction of the Loo and Dixmude canals, where the French had a garrison. On the 9th of June, an attack was made on the French, who were driven from the entrenchments and houses near the Loo Canal. A redoubt was afterwards taken, and a lodgment effected on the works of the bridge, but when Namur was invested, the enterprise became no longer necessary, and, on the 1st of July, Lord Cutts returned to the camp at Temploux with six battalions, including the TWENTY-THIRD regiment. The loss sustained before Fort Knocque by Brigadier-General Tiffeny's brigade, of which the TWENTY-THIRD formed part, amounted to three officers killed and thirty-two wounded, and 337 soldiers killed and wounded.

No longer concealing his intentions, King William determined to invest *Namur*, and, on the 2nd of July, arrived at the castle of Falise; on the following day, the Elector of Bavaria having brought up the remainder of his army with surprising celerity, the town and castle of Namur were completely invested. Marshal Boufflers had, in the meantime, succeeded in reinforcing the garrison, which consisted of about fifteen thousand men, comprising the best troops of France.

The siege of Namur at first proceeded slowly, owing to the want of cannon, which having arrived, the works were carried on with vigour. On the 8th of July, several of the regiments encamped at Temploux, received orders to march into the lines of circumvallation, and the TWENTY-

1695 THIRD formed part of this force. In the evening of the same day, a successful attack was made on the covered way upon the hill of Bouge. The attack was made about seven in the evening; and such were the spirit and energy with which the British soldiers rushed upon their opponents, that the palisades were speedily broken down, the covered way carried, and the French overpowered and chased among the works, many of them throwing themselves into stone-pits to escape the fury of their assailants. Brigadier-General Fitzpatrick was ordered to mount the trenches with the regiments of Lauder, Ingoldsby (TWENTY-THIRD), Saunderson, and Maitland; and Brigadier-General Frisheim, with the Dutch, relieved the posts which had been gained. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment had Captain Hamilton and Lieutenant Jasaut killed.

This success was followed by increased exertions on the part of the besiegers, and on the 17th of July all preparations were completed for an attack on the counterscarp. Major-General Lindeboom was then in the trenches with Brigadier Selwyn, and the regiments of Lauder, Ingoldsby (TWENTY-THIRD), Saunderson, and Maitland. The attack was ordered for the evening at the relieving of the trenches, so as to have plenty of regiments ready to sustain the assault. Fifteen grenadiers were detached from each of the regiments concerned in the siege of the town (except the Foot Guards), amounting to about fifty men, commanded by Colonel Collingwood. The attack was commenced by the grenadiers about five o'clock in the afternoon, who gallantly advanced to the glacis, and fired their grenades over the palisades into the covered way. The enemy had traverses palisaded the entire length of this covered way from the *Porte-de-Fer* to the Maese, which strengthened the counterscarp considerably. The grenadiers notwithstanding gained the glacis, but the besieged,

under cover of their traverses, very much annoyed the 1695
assailants, and disputed the lodgments upon the glacis with great obstinacy; for which reason the regiments of Ingoldsby (TWENTY-THIRD) and Saunderson marched out of the trenches to their assistance; but when they came to lodge the woolsacks and gabions upon the palisades of the glacis, the French, who still defended themselves by means of their traverses, set them on fire, and sprang two or three mines, which did some execution. Several grenadiers leaped over the palisades into the covered way, and fought with much bravery in the thickest of the conflict. The lodgment was at length effected, and the French were forced to abandon the counterscarp.

D'Auvergne, in his History, computes the casualties at about seven or eight hundred men killed and wounded, and states, that "*Colonel Ingoldsby's (23rd) and Saunderson's regiments suffered most among ours (Scots Fusilier Guards,) in gaining the counterscarp.*"

The TWENTY-THIRD had Lieutenant Brooker and Ensign Paget killed, and Captains Purefoy, Jones, and Stedman, Lieutenants Ogilby, Moor, Disney, and Lloyd, and Ensigns Patteson and Johnson, wounded.

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment was also in the trenches in the evening of the 20th of July, the day on which King William received the news of the surrender of Dixmude to the French, for which Major-General Ellemberg was afterwards tried by court-martial, and sentenced to be beheaded, which was carried into effect at Ghent on the 30th of November, 1695. Deinse was also taken by the French on the 21st of July.

King William prosecuted the siege of Namur with vigour, and with such success, that the garrison hoisted a white flag, and agreed to surrender the town, which was

1695 delivered up on the 25th July, 1695, when the garrison retired into the Castle, where they determined to defend themselves to the last extremity.

After the surrender of the town of Namur, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment marched from the lines of circumvallation to Genappe, where a force was assembled under the Earl of Athlone to co-operate with the covering army. The confederate army being thus divided, part carrying on the siege of the *Castle of Namur*, and the remainder stationed in various places in the Netherlands, the French commander, Marshal Villeroy, having assembled an immense force, advanced to Brussels, and bombarded the city. Upon this march of Marshal Villeroy to Brussels, ten battalions were detached from the Earl of Athlone's army at Waterloo to reinforce the army under the Prince of Vaudemont; four of these battalions were English, and the TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the number.

Marshal Villeroy, after bombarding the city of Brussels, withdrew his army on the 7th of August, and marched towards Namur, with the design of raising the siege of the castle. The Prince of Vaudemont's force in the meanwhile approached closer to the main army under King William, and encamped at Mazy, about five miles from Namur.

On the 30th of August, the grenadier company of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment took part in an assault upon the *Castle of Namur*, and was engaged with the force under Lord Cutts in storming the counterscarp and breach of the *Terra Nova*. This proved a severe and sanguinary service; the assailants and defenders fought bravely, and several lodgments were effected, but the castle was not carried. Captain Parry, of the TWENTY-THIRD, was killed on this service.

Preparations were afterwards made for another assault, when the garrison, despairing of all hope of succour from

Marshal Villeroy's army, was forced to surrender. At 1695
the capitulation of Namur, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment took possession of the gates. On the 5th of September, the garrison marched out, when Marshal Boufflers was arrested, in order to obtain satisfaction of the French monarch for the detention of the garrisons of Dixmude and Deinse, who were detained prisoners contrary to the cartel. Marshal Boufflers was soon afterwards released on parole given that the garrisons should be liberated.

In this manner was effected this important conquest, which greatly increased the military reputation of King William, and added fresh lustre to the confederate troops; twelve thousand men were lost by the Allies in recovering Namur from the French.

No further actions occurred during the year 1695, and the TWENTY-THIRD regiment returned about the middle of October to its former winter quarters at Bruges.

In the spring of 1696, Louis XIV. endeavoured to 1696
weaken the power of the confederate army in Flanders, by causing England to become the seat of civil war. The partisans of King James were excited to rise in arms; a plot was formed for the assassination of King William, and a French army approached the coast to embark with King James for England.

Several regiments were in consequence selected to return to England, but the TWENTY-THIRD remained in Flanders. In the meantime the conspirators had been discovered; a British fleet was sent to blockade the French ports; the designs of Louis XIV. upon England were frustrated, and several of the corps returned to Flanders.

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment, in May, 1696, marched out of Bruges, and was posted at Bellem, together with the Dutch cavalry, commanded by Brigadiers Sohack

1696 and Boncourt; the brigade of infantry, consisting of the regiments of Mackay, Sir David Collier, Ingoldsby and Ferguson, being under the orders of Sir David Collier: the whole were under the command of Lieut.-General Sir Henry Bellasis.

In May, King William embarked at Margate, and landed in Holland on the 7th of that month. On the 29th of May, His Majesty reviewed the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments stationed at Bellem, and expressed his satisfaction as to their condition. The troops were well clothed, and most of the regiments were complete in numbers, the losses of the preceding campaign having been replaced.

On the 31st of May, King William promoted several officers, and Colonel Ingoldsby, of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment, was appointed Brigadier. His Majesty, in order to strengthen the Brabant army in infantry, sent for a considerable detachment from the Prince of Vaudemont's army, to be commanded by the Duke of Wirtemberg.

Accordingly, on the 4th of June, the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments proceeded en route to *Appels* upon the Scheldt, near Dendermond, and marched to Malenstein, where they passed the canal at Sas-van-Ghent. Brigadier Ingoldsby commanded the brigade, of which his regiment, the TWENTY-THIRD, formed part. On the 5th of June, the whole of the troops, amounting to fifteen battalions, which had been detached under the Duke of Wirtemberg, joined at Appels.

No general engagement, however, occurred, and, in September, the Prince of Vaudemont having been informed of the march of the enemy to Turnhout and Wynendale, requested to be reinforced, in order to provide for the safety of Bruges. The brigades of Fitzpatrick

(Seventh Royal Fusiliers) and Ingoldsby (TWENTY-THIRD) accordingly marched towards Ghent to reinforce the Prince, from whence they proceeded in boats to Bruges. The confederates had put their camp into such a state of defence, that Marshal Villeroy's designs on Bruges were frustrated. 1696

In October, King William returned to England. During the campaign of 1696, neither the French, nor the confederates, had entered upon any siege, or fought any considerable action. The great scarcity of money, upon the recoining of the silver in this year, is one of the reasons given for the inactivity of the English: the loss of the nation upon the recoinage is stated to have amounted to 2,200,000*l.*

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment shortly afterwards occupied its former quarters at Bruges.

In April, 1697, King William embarked at Margate for Holland, and the army entered upon the operations of another campaign; but while the troops were in the field, negotiations for a general peace were opened at Ryswick, Monsieur Letinroot, the Swedish ambassador being mediator. The treaty of Ryswick was signed during the night between the 20th and 21st of September, 1697. 1697

By this treaty, France was to restore to the Spanish monarch Barcelona, Roses, Gironne, and all that she had acquired in Catalonia; also Luxemburg, Mons, Charleroi, and all other towns she had obtained possession of in the Low Countries, as well as in America. It was also stipulated between England and France, that Louis XIV. would not attempt to disturb King William in the enjoyment of the British dominions.

After the conclusion of peace, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment embarked for Ireland, where it remained until

1697 events occasioned it to be again sent on foreign service in the Netherlands, the scene of its former glories, and which has been aptly termed the battle-field of Europe, on account of the liberties of Christendom having been so frequently defended in that country.

1700 These events arose from the decease of Charles II. King of Spain, without issue, which occurred on the 1st of November, 1700; and he bequeathed his crown to Philip, Duke of Anjou, second son of the Dauphin of France. Louis XIV., in violation of existing treaties, accordingly endeavoured to procure the accession of his grandson, the Duke of Anjou, to the throne of Spain, in opposition to the claims of Charles, Archduke of Austria, the second son of Leopold, Emperor of Germany.*

Louis XIV. sent a body of troops to take possession of the Spanish Netherlands, and detained 15,000 Dutch, who formed the garrisons of the barrier-towns in virtue of a previous convention with Spain, which was concluded at the peace of Ryswick in 1697.

King William immediately adopted active measures for augmenting the army and navy, and sent thirteen British battalions to assist the Dutch against the advance of the French army towards their frontiers.†

* On the 5th of May, 1705, Leopold, Emperor of Germany died, and was succeeded by his son Joseph, whose decease occurred at Vienna on the 17th of April 1711, when his brother Charles III., of Spain, was elected Emperor.

† *Regiments which proceeded to Holland in* 1701.

A battalion of the Foot Guards from England.

The following regiments embarked at Cork on the 15th June, 1701.

1st Foot.	Royals, 1st Batt.	13th Foot.	Sir John Jacob's.
	Ditto 2nd Batt.	15th ,,	Howe's.
8th ,,	Princess Anne's.	17th ,,	Sir Matthew Bridge's.
9th ,,	Stewart's.	18th ,,	Royal Irish.
10th ,,	Sir Bevil Granville's.	24th ,,	Seymour's.

The 16th (Stanley's,) and 23rd (Ingoldsby's,) regiments, embarked at Carrickfergus on the 7th of June, 1701, but did not sail from thence until the 15th of that month.

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment, commanded by Briga- 1701
dier-General Ingoldsby, embarked at Carrickfergus for Flanders on the 7th of June, 1701; and afterwards increased its former reputation, by sharing in the victories gained by the Duke of Marlborough; triumphs which rivalled the ancient glories of Creçy, and of Agincourt.

Brigadier-General Ingoldsby arrived in Holland on the 30th of June, with the Sixteenth and TWENTY-THIRD regiments under his command, which proceeded to their appointed garrisons at Worcum and Heusden.

On the 6th of July, King William proceeded to Holland; and on the 16th of September the troops under Brigadier-General Ingoldsby marched to *Breda Heath*, where the army was reviewed by His Majesty on the 21st of September. After the review, the troops marched back to their respective garrisons, where they remained during the year.

On the 16th of September, 1701, the decease of James II. occurred at St. Germains, and his son (known in England as the Pretender) was, by order of Louis XIV., proclaimed King of England, Scotland, and Ireland, by the title of King James III. This indignity to the British sovereign and nation, added to the contemplated union of the crowns of France and Spain, aroused the feelings of the British people; and King William concluded an alliance with the Emperor of Austria and the States General, against the French monarch, which was termed "*The Grand Alliance*," the principal objects of which were to procure the Spanish Netherlands as a barrier for the Dutch, and to prevent France and Spain being united under the same prince. In November, the King returned to London.

While these active measures were in progress, the de- 1702
cease of King William occurred on the 8th of March,

1702 1702; and his successor, Queen Anne, resolved to carry into effect the views of her predecessor. War was accordingly declared against France and Spain on the 4th of May following, and additional forces were sent to Flanders, the Earl of Marlborough being appointed to command the British, Dutch, and auxiliary troops, with the rank of Captain-General.

In the meantime the TWENTY-THIRD regiment, having passed the winter amongst the Dutch, quitted its cantonments on the 10th of March, proceeded to *Rosendael*, where the British infantry assembled and encamped under Brigadier-General Ingoldsby.

On the 16th of April, the Prince of Nassau Saarbruck, commanding the German and Dutch troops, invested *Kayserswerth*, a strong fortress on the Waal, a branch of the Rhine, which was garrisoned by the French; and the TWENTY-THIRD, with the other British regiments, proceeded from their camp at Rosendael to the duchy of Cleves, where they joined a body of Dutch and Germans under General the Earl of Athlone, and encamped at Cranenburg, on the Lower Rhine, to cover the siege.

While the allies were engaged in the siege of Kayserswerth, Marshal Boufflers, who commanded the French army under the Duke of Burgundy, with a very superior force, in point of numbers, traversed the forest of Cleves, and advanced through the plains of Goch with the design of surprising Nimeguen. This movement caused the Earl of Athlone to advance upon Nimeguen, and the troops under his command arrived on the morning of the 11th of June, within a few miles of the place, when the French columns appeared marching with all possible expedition to surround the allies. Some sharp skirmishing ensued, in which the rear-guard distinguished itself in opposing the leading columns of the French army.

Nimeguen was thus saved from the French, and on the 17th of June, *Kayserswerth* surrendered to the confederate troops. 1702

In the beginning of July, the Earl of Marlborough arrived in the Netherlands, and assumed the command of the British, Dutch, and auxiliary troops. At this period the Duchy of Cleves had been overrun by the enemy, who menaced the frontiers of Holland. His Lordship assembled the troops of the several nations, advanced against the French, and by skilful movements forced them to retire. The TWENTY-THIRD formed part of the force under the Earl of Marlborough, and were engaged in several movements designed to bring on a general action, which the enemy avoided.

Venloo, a town in the province of Limburg, on the east side of the river Maese, was invested by the allies on the 29th of August, and the TWENTY-THIRD formed part of the covering army during the siege. The town surrendered on the 25th of September.

Stevenswaert and *Ruremonde* were the next objects of attack, and were captured early in October. Animated by these successes, the main army struck its tents at one o'clock in the morning of the 10th of October, and advanced in two columns towards the city of *Liege*, and encamped near the works about four in the afternoon. Marshal Boufflers, thereupon, abandoned the city, and setting on fire the suburb of St. Walburg, retired into the Citadel and Chartreuse.

After having occupied the city of Liege, the Earl of Marlborough commenced the siege of the Citadel, which was taken by storm on the 23rd of October, and in the capture of which the Grenadier company of the regiment distinguished itself.

The Earl of Marlborough has alluded to the bravery

1702 of the troops employed in the capture of the *Citadel of Liege*, in a letter to the Earl of Nottingham, dated the 23rd of October, 1702. This letter forms part of the correspondence which was discovered by the present Duke of Marlborough in the year 1842, upon making some improvements at Blenheim, and is included in "*The Letters and Despatches of John Churchill, first "Duke of Marlborough,*" recently published under the superintendence of the late General the Right Honorable Sir George Murray, G.C.B:—

"The post not being gone, I could not but open "this letter to let you know, that, by the extraordinary "bravery of the officers and soldiers, the Citadel has been "carried by storm, and for the honor of Her Majesty's "subjects, the English were the first that got upon the "breach, and the Governor was taken by a lieutenant "of Stewart's regiment.* The necessary orders are "given for the hastening the attack of the Chartreuse."

A few days after this capture, the Chartreuse surrendered, and the Earl of Marlborough proceeded to Holland, and thence to London, where, on arrival, Her Majesty Queen Anne created him a Duke, as a reward for the successes of the campaign of 1702.

In a list of the forces in Holland, in 1702, preserved in the British Museum, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment is stated to have consisted at that period of 44 commissioned officers, 104 non-commissioned officers, and 736 privates.

The British troops quitted the valley of Liege in November, and marched to Holland for winter quarters.

1703 In the beginning of April, 1703, the Duke of Marlborough arrived in Holland, and *Bonn*, a strong town on the Rhine, was invested by the Dutch and Germans on

* Now the Ninth Regiment of Foot.

the 24th of April. Marshals Villeroy and Boufflers, taking 1703
advantage of the dispersed state of the allied army, made a sudden advance to surprise the troops in their quarters. The first attack was made on the 10th of May upon two British regiments at *Tongres*; and these regiments, the *second foot*, and *Elst's corps* (the latter since disbanded), defended themselves upwards of twenty-four hours before they surrendered. Upon this the TWENTY-THIRD, and other regiments, proceeded to Maestricht, where they formed in order of battle near the works: the French Commander advanced, reconnoitred the position, and withdrew to Tongres, after a sharp cannonade. *Bonn* surrendered on the 15th of May, and the army was afterwards assembled in the vicinity of Maestricht, where the TWENTY-THIRD was formed in brigade with the battalion of Foot Guards, the first battalion of the Royals, and the regiments of Stewart, Howe and Marlborough, (now 9th, 15th, and 24th regiments) under the orders of Brigadier-General Withers, in the division commanded by Lieutenant-General Charles Churchill, brother of the Duke of Marlborough. On the 24th of May, the army advanced towards *Tongres*, when the French retreated with precipitation, and the confederates encamped at Thys. The Duke of Marlborough then made several movements in order to bring on a general engagement, which the French avoided, and took post behind their fortified lines, where His Grace was desirous of attacking them, but was prevented by the Dutch generals and field deputies.

The Duke of Marlborough, in a letter to the Dutch General, Mr. D'Obdam, dated 3rd of July, 1703, of which the following is an extract, has feelingly alluded to the long marches, made by the troops in order to bring the enemy to a battle:—

"Nous avons eu une cruelle marche aujourd'hui pour

1703 " les pauvres soldats, qui ont été la plupart du chemin à " mi-jambe dans l'eau et la boue, ce qui nous obligera, " j'ai peur, de faire halte ici demain. Mais nous pour- " suivrons la marche demain pour vous approcher de plus " près, et attendrons avec impatience vos sentiments, avec " ceux des généraux, sur les opérations que nous aurons " à faire pour parvenir au plus-tôt à nos desseins."

Operations were therefore continued against the fortified towns in possession of the enemy, and in August, the army advanced to *Huy*, a strong fortress on the Maese above the city of Liege, which was invested on the 16th, and captured on the 25th of August. Another proposal to attack the French lines was declined by the Dutch; and the main army afterwards advanced to St. Trond; at the same time a detachment invested *Limburg*, a city of the Spanish Netherlands, situated on a pleasant eminence amongst the woods near the banks of the little river Wesdet. The siege of this place commenced on the 10th of September, and on the 28th, the governor, with a garrison of fourteen hundred men, surrendered.

Spanish Guelderland was thus delivered from the power of France, and the Dutch were freed from the dread of an invasion. The army, shortly after the capture of Limburg, went into winter quarters in Dutch Brabant.

1704 In the early part of 1704, a detachment of the regiment proceeded to Maestricht, to take part in the duties of that garrison, while the Dutch troops were throwing up a strong entrenchment on the heights of Petersberg.

Meanwhile the progress of the war had assumed an unfavourable aspect in Germany; the Elector of Bavaria had embraced the French interest, and, having been reinforced by a numerous body of French troops, had gained considerable advantages over the army of the Empire. Under these circumstances the Duke of Marl-

1704 ment from each British regiment, with the Foot Guards, Royals, and TWENTY-THIRD regiment, commanded by Brigadier-General Fergusson, and a Dutch force under General Goor, advanced, under cover of a heavy cannonade, to attack the entrenchments. The difficulty of the ground, the formidable preparations of the enemy, and the steady bravery of the Bavarians, occasioned the contest to be severe.

All the confederate troops behaved with much bravery and resolution, and the cavalry shared the glory of the day with the infantry; but the first attack being commenced by a battalion of the Foot Guards, and the regiments of Orkney and Ingoldsby (First foot, and TWENTY-THIRD regiment) they suffered more than the others.

The determined assaults of the British soldiers overcame all resistance, and after an attack, which lasted nearly two hours, the French and Bavarians abandoned the heights, and were pursued across the Danube by the victors, who captured sixteen pieces of artillery, several standards, colours, tents, with the equipage and plate of the Bavarian commander, the Count d'Arco; the Count and his generals, saved themselves by swimming across the Danube.

The Duke of Marlborough stated in a letter to Her Majesty Queen Anne, dated 3rd of July, 1704, from the camp at Ebermergen, that "Mr. Secretary Harley will "have the honor to lay the relation of yesterday's action "before Your Majesty, to which I shall crave leave "humbly to add, that our success is, in a great measure, "owing to the particular blessing of God on the un-"paralleled courage of your troops."

The regiment had Captains Harman, Ogilvy, Lieutenants Frazier, Agan, and Price killed; Colonel Sabine, Lieutenant-Colonel Jones, Major Ingoldsby, Captain Eyme, Lieutenants Jeverau, Katrick, Richards, Cadroy,

Piggot, Aldy, and Jones wounded; six serjeants killed, 1704
and six wounded; sixty rank and file killed, and one hundred and fifty-six wounded.

After this victory *Donawerth* was taken possession of by the allies, who penetrated the country of Bavaria, and the Elector concentrated his forces at Augsburg. The enemy having left a garrison at *Rain*, a small town near the River Lech, the confederate Generals resolved to attack it. The siege was under the command of the Count de Frise, and to favour the enterprise the allied army, on the 12th of July, moved to the right, its former position being between Standa and Bercheim. The trenches were opened before *Rain* on the 13th July, and the garrison, under the Count de Mercy, capitulated on the 17th of that month, and was permitted to proceed to the Elector's camp at Augsburg. The camp at Augsburg was too strong to be attacked with any prospect of success, and the troops retired a few stages; the siege of *Ingoldstadt* was commenced by the Germans under the Prince of Baden in August, and the British troops formed part of the covering army.

When the Elector of Bavaria quitted his entrenched camp, and formed a junction with the reinforcements sent by Louis XIV. to his aid, the united forces encamped in the valley of the Danube, near the village of *Blenheim*. At the same time the allied army, commanded by the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy, had advanced to the village of Munster, and was encamped with its left to the Danube.

The plain upon which the two armies were encamped, was about two leagues in length, and of unequal breadth; the entrance into it being about the breadth of a cannon-shot, but widening soon after to about a league. It was bordered on one side by the wood of Schellenberg, and

1704 on the other by the Danube; the plain was also intersected by three or four rivulets in their courses to the river. Several marshes, with about twenty scattered villages and hamlets, impeded the march of the confederate army, which amounted nearly to fifty-two thousand men, and upwards of fifty pieces of cannon: the enemy was nearly sixty thousand strong, with ninety pieces of artillery; the right wing was commanded by Marshal Tallard, and the left by the Elector, with the Bavarians, and the Marshal de Marsin, with the French troops under his command.

All preparations being made, and the Duke of Marlborough satisfied that the chivalrous spirit of his soldiers would overmatch the advantages of the foe, the British Commander, on the memorable 13th of August, 1704, after a brisk cannonade, gave orders for a general attack, which commenced about a quarter before one o'clock, P.M. Major-General Wilks made the first onset with the tenth, fifteenth, twenty-first, TWENTY-THIRD, and twenty-fourth regiments, under Brigadier-General Row, who led the attack in gallant style, followed by four battalions of Hessians, and supported by eleven battalions of infantry, and fifteen squadrons of cavalry. This column proceeded to the banks of the little river Nebel, and took possession of two water-mills, which the enemy had evacuated and set on fire; then advancing through the enclosures, made a determined attack on the French troops posted in the village of *Blenheim*; Brigadier-General Row striking his sword into the enemy's palisades, before he gave the word "fire."

Although the assault was made with spirit and resolution, yet the brigade was unable to force the entrenchments against the superior numbers of the enemy; and while retiring, it was charged by the French troopers, who were repulsed by the Hessian brigade. After repeated

attempts on the village had proved unavailing, a few corps 1704
blockaded the avenues; the army traversed the rivulet, and attacking the French position along the front, engaged in a sanguinary conflict. The volleys of musketry, and the charges of cavalry were continued with varied success, and amidst this storm of war, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment had repeated opportunities of distinguishing itself. At length victory declared in favour of the confederates, and the French were driven from the field with great slaughter, and the loss of many officers and men taken prisoners, among whom was the French Commander Marshal Tallard.

The main body of the French army being defeated, with the loss of its artillery and baggage, the troops posted in *Blenheim* attempted to escape by the rear of the village; but were repulsed. Additional forces were brought against the village; Lieutenant-General the Earl of Orkney attacked the French troops in the churchyard with eight battalions; and Lieutenant-General Ingoldsby attacked the right of the village with four battalions. The efforts of the French troops to escape became hopeless, and at eight o'clock in the evening, twenty-four battalions of infantry, and twelve squadrons of cavalry, surrendered prisoners of war.

Thus ended the mighty struggle of this eventful day. Bavaria was subdued; the German empire was delivered from the menaced danger; the terrors of the British arms awed the States of Italy, which supported the Bourbon cause; and the tide of war flowed prosperously in the interest of the Allied Powers.

Monarchs, statesmen, and poets, all vied with each other in doing homage to the genius of the Duke of Marlborough, and to his brave soldiers, who had, as Marshal Tallard expressed himself, conquered the best troops in

1704 the world, a high compliment from an enemy to the valour of the victors.

Few commanders of note were lost by the English in this battle, except Brigadier-General Row, and the Prince of Holstein Beck, who died of their wounds. The total loss of the allies amounted to 4485 men killed, and 7525 wounded, with 273 lost or made prisoners; while that of the enemy was estimated at nearly 10,000 killed, about thirty squadrons of cavalry drowned in the Danube, and 13,000 prisoners.

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment had Major George Morgan, Captain Henry Cookman, Lieutenants Hugh Smith, Griffith Jones, Baily, Fleetwood Dormer, Rowland, John Paterson, and Adjutant Powel, wounded. The number of non-commissioned officers and private soldiers of the regiment, killed and wounded, has not been ascertained.

So great was the number of French and Bavarians taken in this battle, that several regiments were sent in charge of them to Holland; but the TWENTY-THIRD regiment remained with the army in Germany.

The battle of *Blenheim* rendered it unnecessary to continue the siege of Ingoldstadt, as the Duke of Marlborough considered it more advisable to unite all the confederate forces, in order to oblige the French to repass the Rhine. Ratisbon, Augsburg, Meningen, and other imperial towns were abandoned by the enemy, and the allies took possession of them. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment proceeded through the circle of Suabia, and directed its march to Philipsburg, where it crossed the Rhine on the 7th of September, and was subsequently encamped at Croon-Weissemberg, forming part of the covering army during the siege of *Landau* by the Germans under Prince Lewis.

Here the Duke of Marlborough received an express

from General Thungen of *Ulm* having surrendered on 1704
honorable terms on the 11th of September, and the Imperialists found in the town several pieces of cannon, plenty of ammunition, and a quantity of stores and provisions, a seasonable supply for carrying on the siege of *Landau*, which was invested on the 12th of September, and surrendered on the 24th of November.

On the 13th of October the TWENTY-THIRD, and three other corps, marched from the covering army encamped at Croon-Weissemberg to Germersheim, and sailed down the Rhine to Holland, where they were placed in garrison for the winter.

The Duke of Marlborough took possession of *Treves* on the 29th of October. His Grace having settled the distribution of winter quarters, proceeded towards *Traerbach*, on the Moselle, which was occupied by a French garrison of six hundred men. The Duke returned to the camp at Croon-Weissemberg after having given directions to the Prince of Hesse-Cassel for the siege of Traerbach, which was invested on the 3rd of November, and surrendered on the 20th of December.

At the commencement of the year 1705, the regiment 1705
was in garrison at Ruremonde, where it remained until the opening of the campaign.

On the 1st of April, Lieut.-General Richard Ingoldsby was removed to the Eighteenth (Royal Irish) regiment, and Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Sabine, who was wounded at the battle of Schellenberg, was promoted to the colonelcy of the TWENTY-THIRD, ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

The TWENTY-THIRD and Twenty-fourth regiments, which formed the garrison of Ruremonde, were reviewed there on the 7th of May by the Duke of Marlborough; the regiment afterwards marched to Juliers, and from

1705 thence proceeded through a mountainous country to the Moselle valley, and encamped near the ancient city of Treves. In the order of battle near Treves, on the 29th of May, the regiment was stationed in the first line. The army being united, it passed the rivers Moselle and Saar on the 3rd of June, traversed the defile of Tavernen, and pitched its tents near Syrk. The army here waited for the Imperialists, whose tardy movements, and inefficient state, disappointed the expectations of the Duke of Marlborough, and rendered it necessary for him to make a retrograde movement to the Netherlands, to arrest the progress of the French in that country.

The approach of the army towards the Maese caused the French to raise the siege of the citadel of Liege, and to retire. On arriving at the Maese, a detachment of the regiment was employed in recapturing *Huy*, which had been taken by the enemy during the absence of the confederate forces up the Moselle. *Huy* was recaptured on the 11th of July, after having been occupied only for a month by the enemy.

A stupendous barrier of fortified lines, forts, and batteries, had been constructed with great labour and expense to oppose the progress of the British General; but by menacing the lines to the south of the Mehaigne, to draw the attention of the French army to that quarter, and afterwards making a forced march to the right during the night of the 17th of July, these stupendous works were forced on the following day at *Helixem* and *Neer-Hespen*. The advance was concealed by a thick fog, and under the cover of this obscurity, one column cleared the village of Neer-Winden and Neer-Hespen; another gained the bridge and village of Helixem; and a third carried the castle of Wange, which commanded the passage of the Little Gheet. The enemy, being surprised and con-

founded by the suddenness of the attack, retreated in a 1705
panic. The pioneers were instantly set to work, and in a short time a passage was made for the cavalry.

While this was in progress, the Marquis d'Allegre advanced with twenty battalions of French infantry, and fifty squadrons of cavalry, and opened a sharp cannonade; but his advance was retarded by a hollow way, which gave time for more troops to pass the lines; after a sharp attack, his forces were defeated; the allies took many prisoners, and captured a number of standards and colours. The Duke of Marlborough stated in his letter to Her Majesty Queen Anne, "*that it is not possible to* "*express the bravery and resolution which your Majesty's* "*troops, as well as those that were with them, have shown* "*on this occasion.*"

In this service, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment was formed in brigade with the sixteenth, twenty-sixth, twenty-eighth, and Stringer's (afterwards disbanded), under Brigadier-General Fergusson, and composed part of the main body of the army.

The next position occupied by the enemy was behind the river *Dyle*. The Duke of Marlborough advanced with the design of passing the river, but was prevented by heavy rains. On the 21st of July, a small body of French troops crossed the *Dyle*, when a slight skirmish ensued. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment was subsequently engaged in several manœuvres, but the designs of the English Commander being frustrated by the Dutch Generals, the forcing of the lines was not followed by such splendid results as had been anticipated.

In the autumn the French lines were demolished, and on the 24th of October, a detachment was sent from the grand army, under Count Noyelles, to invest the small town and fortress of *Sandvliet*, on the Scheldt, which sur-

1705 rendered on the 29th of October. In the following month the TWENTY-THIRD regiment marched back to Holland, and was placed in garrison for the winter.

1706 Every successive victory had inspired the tooops with additional confidence in their Commander, and in their own prowess; to besiege a town, or fight a battle, and not conquer, when the Duke of Marlborough commanded, appeared impossible Confident that fresh triumphs awaited them, the soldiers took the field in May, 1706, and the TWENTY-THIRD joined the camp near Tongres on the 19th of that month. On the 23rd of May, as the army was advancing in eight columns, information was received that the French, Spaniards, and Bavarians, commanded by Marshal Villeroy and the Elector of Bavaria, were taking up a position at Mont St. André, with their centre at the village of *Ramilies*, and the Allies immediately prepared for action.

Diverging into the open plain, the allied army formed line, and advanced against the enemy. The TWENTY-THIRD, being on the right of the line, proceeded in the direction of the village of Autreglise, and made a demonstration of attacking the enemy's left. The French weakened their centre to support their left, and the Duke of Marlborough instantly seized the opportunity, and attacked the weakened point. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were among the corps which, occupying some high ground on the right, were not engaged during the early part of the battle; but they had a full view of the plain. A crisis at length arrived; the brigades on the right were ordered into action, when the regiment evinced that intrepidity and firmness for which it had been distinguished on former occasions, and another decisive victory exalted the fame of the British arms. The broken remains of the French, Spanish, and Bavarian legions were pursued for

many miles, and an immense number of prisoners, cannon, 1706
standards, and colours were among the trophies of the victors.

The battle lasted about three hours, and the wreck of the French army continued its precipitate flight to Louvain, but immediately afterwards abandoned that city, and also Brussels. The states of Brabant, and the magistrates of Brussels, renounced their allegiance to the Duke of Anjou. The principal towns of Brabant, and several in Flanders, were immediately delivered up, and others surrendered on being summoned, or in a few days afterwards.

Ostend, however, held out, and in June, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment marched to Arseele, and afterwards to Rouselaer, forming part of the covering army during the siege of Ostend, which was invested on the 28th of June, and which surrendered in the beginning of July, the allies taking possession of the place in the name of King Charles III. of Spain, afterwards elected Emperor of Germany.

Menin, a strong town on the river Lys, accounted the key to the French conquests in the Netherlands, and one of the masterpieces of the celebrated Vauban, was besieged on the 25th of July, and surrendered a month afterwards; four pieces of cannon with the *Arms of England*, which were taken by the enemy at the battle of Landen, fought on the 29th July, 1693, were found on taking possession of Menin, and were, by order of the Duke of Marlborough, sent to London. *Dendermond* was also delivered up in September, after a week's resistance. During these sieges the TWENTY-THIRD continued to form part of the covering army, and after the surrender of *Aeth*, a town and fortress on the Dender, which occurred on the 3rd of October, the regiment took up its winter quarters at Ghent, where it arrived in November.

1707 On the 10th March, 1707, a letter was addressed by the Duke of Marlborough, from St. James's, to Lieutenant-General Ingoldsby, in which the following allusion is made to the TWENTY-THIRD regiment.*

"Colonel Lalo is acquainted that his officers must con-"form themselves to other regiments, and use *pertuisans* "as those of the regiment of WELSH FUSILIERS."†

In May the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS again took the field, and were formed in brigade with the Foot Guards, first battalion of the Royals, and the sixteenth regiment under the command of Brigadier-General Meredith. The regiment was stationed in the first line of the order of battle at the camp at Meldart, near Louvain, on the 26th of June. The opposing armies passed the campaign in manœuvring, and observing the movements of each other; two such armies were probably never in sight for so considerable a period, without coming to an engagement; the French avoided a general action, and in October, the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments returned to Ghent.

1708 Louis the Fourteenth seeing his armies beaten and dispirited, and his fortresses wrested from him, meditated the separation of England from the allies, by placing the Pretender on the throne, and an expedition was prepared for this purpose at Dunkirk. Her Majesty's Government receiving intelligence of these preparations, sent out Admiral Sir George Byng with a fleet to watch the enemy's designs. Admiral Baker sailed at the same time to Ostend, in order to convoy from thence Brigadier-General Sabine, of the TWENTY-THIRD FUSILIERS, and ten English regiments, consisting of one battalion of the

* This letter forms part of the collection of the Despatches of the Duke of Marlborough, edited by the late General the Right Honorable Sir George Murray, G.C.B.

† Colonel Sampson de Lalo was at this period (1707) Colonel of the Twenty-first, Royal North British, Fusiliers.

Foot Guards, and the first Royals, third, eighth, tenth, 1708
fifteenth, sixteenth, eighteenth, twenty-first, and twenty-fourth regiments. The troops embarked at Ostend on the 26th of March, 1708, and arrived at Tynemouth on the 1st of April. Meanwhile the French fleet, with the Pretender on board, had sailed from Dunkirk, but being chased by the British men-of-war, returned to Dunkirk without effecting a landing. The English troops then returned to Ostend, where they arrived on the 30th of April and proceeded to Bruges; from whence, on the 3rd of May, Brigadier-General Sabine, with the seven battalions of the garrison of Ghent, resailed to Ghent, which he had left on the 19th of March.

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment commenced its march from Ghent on the 22nd of May, 1708, for the rendezvous of the army near Brussels. Shortly afterwards the French, by treachery and stratagem, obtained possession of the two towns of Ghent and Bruges. They also invested *Oudenarde*, and this circumstance led to a general engagement, in which new honors were gained by the TWENTY-THIRD regiment.

Oudenarde, being situated on the Scheldt, and at the verge of the frontier, was a connecting link for the alternate defence of Flanders or Brabant. The place was invested by the French on the 9th July, and the Duke of Burgundy and Marshal Vendôme designed to occupy the strong camp of Lessines, on the Dender, to cover the siege; but they were opposed by a Commander, whose promptitude and alacrity have seldom been paralleled, and whose resources were called forth by the magnitude of the stake for which he was contending. By a forced march, the Duke of Marlborough gained the position at Lessines before the French, and disconcerted their plans. Being thus foiled, they relinquished their designs on

1708 *Oudenarde*, and proceeded in the direction of Gavre, where they had prepared bridges for passing the Scheldt. In order to meet the enemy on the march, and bring on a general engagement, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment was detached, with a number of other corps, under Major-General Cadogan, to throw bridges over the Scheldt near Oudenarde, for the army to pass over.

The confederate army marched with such expedition, that about two o'clock in the afternoon of the 11th of July, the advance arrived at the bridges over which the sixteen battalions, that were with Major-General Cadogan, were then passing. The French had thrown seven battalions into the village of *Heynem*, through which the highway runs along the Scheldt, and about three o'clock the action commenced by the enemy attempting to dislodge Major-General Rantzan from the eminence on which he was posted; the French, discovering the ground to be marshy, did not venture to cross the rivulet, and retired towards their own right. Hereupon Major-General Cadogan, who had passed the river, attacked the village of Heynem with such bravery (Brigadier Sabine, of the TWENTY-THIRD, with his brigade, being at the head), that the village and the seven battalions of the Swiss regiments of Phiffer, Villars, and Greder, were soon captured. Three of these battalions were taken entire, and the greater portion of the other four likewise.

Halting for a short period in the village after this gallant attack, the regiment afterwards attacked a body of troops posted in the enclosures, and soon drove the French from their ground. As the regiment was advancing in pursuit, a numerous body of the enemy's cavalry menaced it in front and flank, and it fell back to the hedges, where it repulsed the French horsemen. Other British brigades arriving, the whole advanced; a fierce conflict of musketry

ensued, and night coming on, so that it was impossible to 1708
distinguish friend from foe, orders were given to the troops to cease firing, which put an end to the slaughter, and saved the remainder of the French army, which retreated in disorder towards Ghent.

The French had four thousand men killed and wounded, and seven thousand taken prisoners, including eleven generals and seven hundred officers, while the loss of the confederates amounted to about three thousand killed and wounded. Numerous standards were also taken from the enemy.

After this victory, the confederate Generals resolved to besiege *Lisle*, the capital of French Flanders, a fortress deemed almost impregnable, and garrisoned by fifteen thousand men, commanded by the veteran Marshal Boufflers. It is a singular historical fact that, in the early part of his military career, the Duke of Marlborough had served with Marshal Boufflers under the celebrated Marshal Turenne. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment was selected to take part in this gigantic enterprise, which excited the universal attention of Europe. The place was invested by Prince Eugene on the 13th of August, and the Duke of Marlborough stationed the main army at a convenient distance to cover the siege.

The troops appointed to carry on this famous siege consisted of fifty battalions, including thirty from the grand army, and on the evening of the 7th of September the preparations were completed for storming the counterscarp. Upon the trenches being relieved by Lieutenant General Wilks, the following dispositions were made for the attack. Eight hundred grenadiers, supported by the same number of *Fusiliers*, with two thousand workmen and thirty carpenters, designed for cutting down the palisades, were commanded for the attack on the right, between the lower Deule and the gate of St. Andrew, under the direction of Monsieur

1708 des Roques; sixteen hundred grenadiers, supported by the like number of *Fusiliers*, were ordered for the left, between the Deule and St. Magdalen's gate, under the direction of Monsieur du Mey. Besides the troops in the trenches, two thousand men were, in addition, employed in the attack, being detached for that purpose from the grand army, and placed under the command of Brigadier-General Sabine, of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

About eight o'clock on the evening of the 7th of September, the signal was given, and the artillery opened against the counterscarp. Whereupon the troops selected for the attack on the left marched out of the trenches in admirable order. They proceeded to the palisades, drove back the defenders, and several leaping into the covered way put all the French found there to the sword, excepting four officers and a few soldiers, who were taken prisoners. While effecting this lodgment, the enemy's artillery made a terrible fire, and the French sprung three mines, which did considerable execution. The besiegers, however, lodged themselves on the salient angle of the counterscarp of the small horn-work, and on the angle of the *tenaille*.

The troops on the right attacked the enemy with the same courage, and successfully maintained their lodgment on that part of the works situated on the lower Deule, between the two attacks; in addition to these lodgments, the communications towards the breaches were considerably advanced. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment had twelve rank and file killed, and sixty-two wounded, in this attack on the counterscarp. At another attack, on the 21st of September, the allies sustained a loss of upwards of one thousand men, and Prince Eugene was wounded, when the Duke of Marlborough sustained the command of the siege and of his own army.

On the 28th of September, a convoy of eight hundred 1708
waggons, containing an immense quantity of military stores, marching from Ostend to the allied army under the command of Major-General Webb, colonel of the eighth foot, was attacked near *Wynendale* by a very superior body of the enemy under Count de la Motte. The French were however repulsed, and the convoy arrived safely at Lisle on the 30th. Major-General Webb acquired great honor by this victory, the enemy being nearly treble the number of his force, and possessed of a train of artillery, which he wanted. The Major-General received the thanks of Parliament for this eminent service.

Other attacks were made on *Lisle*, and on the 23rd of October the town surrendered, and the garrison retired into the Castle, except the horse, which were allowed to proceed to Douay, with the wives and families of the officers and soldiers.

The casualties of the regiment at the siege of Lisle, from the 14th of August to the 22nd of October, amounted to one captain, three subalterns, three serjeants, and one hundred and fifteen rank and file killed; three captains, eight subalterns, fifteen serjeants, and two hundred and thirty rank and file wounded.

On the 14th of November, Prince Eugene had effected a lodgment on the counterscarp of the citadel of Lisle, and on the 17th of that month the troops stationed themselves on the glacis of the second covered way.

The Elector of Bavaria having marched towards Brabant, the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene concerted measures to pass the Scheldt, in order to relieve Brussels. The enemy's strong positions on the *Scheldt* were forced on the 27th of November; and the Elector made a precipitate retreat from before Brussels.

After a gallant defence, the French were obliged to

1708 surrender the *Citadel of Lisle*, which took place on the 9th of December. Notwithstanding the lateness of the season, the army was called upon to engage in another enterprise, and on the 18th of December the confederate generals invested *Ghent*, which surrendered on the 30th of December, and the town was immediately occupied by the victorious troops.

1709 Having reposed a few months in quarters, and received a body of recruits from England, the regiment traversed the conquered territory to Lisle in June, 1709, and afterwards took part in the manœuvres by which Marshal Villars was induced to diminish the strength of his garrisons in his fortified towns, to reinforce a line of entrenchments and forts, in which he expected to be attacked. This object gained, the siege of *Tournay* was commenced, and the TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the covering army. The town was invested on the 27th of June, and after a month's defence surrendered, when the garrison retired into the citadel. The *Citadel of Tournay* was situated on some high ground, with a gentle ascent from the town, and the siege proved a service of the most difficult character, arising from the multiplicity of the subterraneous works, which were more numerous than those above ground. The approaches were carried on by sinking pits several fathoms deep, and working from thence under ground, until the troops arrived at the casemates and mines. The soldiers engaged in these services frequently encountered parties of the enemy, and numerous combats occurred in these gloomy labyrinths. On some occasions the men at work underground were inundated with water; at other times suffocated with smoke, or buried by the explosion of mines. At length it became difficult to induce the soldiers to enter these dark caverns, and engage in so appalling a service. Perseverance and gal-

lantry eventually triumphed, and the Citadel surrendered 1709
on the 3rd of September.

After the capture of Tournay, the Allied Army traversed the country with the view of besieging *Mons*, the capital of the province of Hainault; but when on the march, the confederate Generals encountered the French army under Marshals Villars and Boufflers near *Malplaquet*, on the 11th of September, when a most sanguinary engagement ensued, the loss of life being greater than at the battles of Blenheim, Ramilies, and Oudenarde put together.

Early on the morning of the 11th of September, the forces of the several nations, which composed the army commanded by the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy, were under arms. The TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments appeared on the ground where they had passed the night, and Divine service was performed by the chaplain. The French camp was a short distance in front; but a thick mist overspread the woods and open grounds, concealing the armies from each other. Under cover of the fog, the artillery was brought forward, and dispositions made for the attack; the French heard the din of hostile preparations, seized their arms, and two powerful armies, headed by Commanders of renown, stood arrayed against each other. The troops of both armies had confidence in their leaders, and were anxious for the combat; the one to acquire new laurels under their favorite chiefs, and the other to retrieve the disasters of eight successive campaigns.

Shortly after eight o'clock, the signal for the attack was given, and the cannonading continued sharply on both sides. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the division commanded by General Count Lottum, and was engaged in the assault of the entrenchments in the wood of Taisniere. Notwithstanding the impediments from the bar-

1709 ricades of felled trees, the French were, after an hour's resistance, driven from their entrenchments. The design of this attack was to drive the enemy from the wood, and then to attack them in the flank of their entrenchments on the plain; the movement succeeded, and the infantry of the enemy's left wing were defeated. General Withers, with nineteen battalions, attacked the enemy in another entrenchment beyond the woods of Taisniere and Great Blagniere with similar vigour and success.

Other attacks raged at the same time in various parts of the field, led by the Prince of Orange, the Dutch Generals, and the Prince Eugene. Eventually the enemy's position was broken, and the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments drove the French from the woods to the plain, when a successful charge of the cavalry decided the battle. The allies pursued a portion of the enemy as far as the village of Quievrain, where the French, having taken up an advantageous position near the small river Haisneau, the confederate Generals gave over the pursuit, and thereupon the French crossed the rivulet. The remainder of their discomfited army retired in great confusion to Maubeuge Condé and Valenciennes, leaving the allies in possession of the field of battle, with sixteen pieces of artillery, twenty colours, twenty-six standards, and other trophies of victory, including many prisoners.

The TWENTY-THIRD FUSILIERS had Lieutenants Bartley, Fullerton, and Parker killed; and Captains Jeffro, Brett, and Vincent, Lieutenants Skane, Price, Powell, Aspee, and Gordon, wounded.

After this victory, the allies besieged *Mons*, which was invested on the 21st of September, and the garrison capitulated on the 20th of October. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the covering army during the siege, and afterwards marched to Ghent for winter quarters.

In the middle of April, 1710, the regiment directed its 1710
march to the vicinity of Tournay, where the allied army assembled. The necessary dispositions for advancing towards the enemy's lines being made, the army marched on the 20th of April in two columns, the right under the Duke of Marlborough to Pont-à-Vendin, and the left under Prince Eugene to Pont Oby, on the Deule. The march was so well planned, that the enemy's lines were passed on the following morning at *Pont-à-Vendin*, and four days afterwards *Douay*, a considerable fortress in the second line of defence, which covered the frontiers of Artois, was invested.

Douay is a town of antiquity, having been a place of note in the time of the first Counts of Flanders; the river Scarpe running through the town, the river Haine being near it, and the works being also strong, numerous, and well-garrisoned under General Albergotti, an officer of tried valour, the siege became an undertaking of importance.

The TWENTY-THIRD took part in repelling the numerous sallies made by the garrison of *Douay*, and the French army under Marshal Villars vainly endeavoured to raise the siege. After a gallant defence, *Douay* surrendered on the 27th of June. The regiment had one captain, one lieutenant, five serjeants, and forty-nine rank and file killed; and two captains, seven lieutenants, ten serjeants, and 137 rank and file wounded during the siege.

It appears by the Duke of Marlborough's correspondence, that the casualties of the TWENTY-THIRD reduced the regiment to two effective captains.

"I have received your letter of the 11th of May, "relating to Colonel Bennet, and am apt to believe if you "had seen and considered Brigadier Sabine's memorial, "which he might have shown you, you would not have "thought it any hardship to oblige him to dispose of his

1710 "company after having enjoyed it as a sinecure through the "whole course and hottest of the war, now at a time when "the regiment is employed at the siege, and reduced to two "captains only to do the duty of the whole." — (*Letter to the Board of Ordnance, dated 5th June*, 1710.)

After the capture of *Douay*, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the covering army encamped at Villars Brulin during the siege of *Bethune*, which surrendered on the 29th of August, and the French army avoiding a general engagement, the fortresses of *Aire* and *St. Venant* were invested and taken.

These towns were so situated as to admit of a simultaneous investment: on the 30th of September St. Venant surrendered, but Aire made a vigorous defence, and was not taken until the 9th of November. After taking part in these services, the regiment marched into quarters at Courtray, where it was stationed during the winter.

1711 Towards the end of April, 1711, the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS advanced from Courtray, and joining the army near Douay, were formed in brigade with the foot guards, a battalion of the royals, and the fifteenth regiment.

Numerous and well-appointed Armies, headed by experienced Generals, had proved ineffectual against the British Commander and his brave troops, and the remark applied by Justin to the campaigns of the Macedonian Conqueror, "*Alexander cum nullo hostium unquam congressus est, "quem non vicerit: nullam urbem obsedit, quam non ex-'pugnaverit,*" is equally applicable to the successes of the Duke of Marlborough, who "*never fought a battle which he did not win, nor besieged a town which he did not take.*"* Before the campaign of 1711, the French had pre-

* Vide List of Battles, Sieges, &c., in the Netherlands and Germany during the "*War of the Spanish Succession*," Appendix page 172.

pared a line of entrenchments to cover their country, and on 1711
account of the strength of these works, Marshal Villars had styled them Marlborough's *Ne plus ultra;* but the English General, by a series of skilful movements, passed these stupendous works at *Arleux* on the 5th of August. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment participated in these skilful operations, and this success was followed by the siege of *Bouchain*, a fortified town of Hainault, situated on both sides of the Scheldt. The regiment formed part of a division of twenty battalions of infantry, commanded by Lieutenant-General the Earl of Orkney, which took post on the north and north-west side of the town and river; it shared in the duties of the trenches, and in carrying on the attacks, in which services it had several men killed and wounded. The garrison on the 12th of September beat a parley, and on the following day the Duke of Marlborough took possession of one of the gates of the town. On the 14th of September, the garrison marched out, after delivering up their arms and twenty-four colours; when Major-General Grovestein, being appointed Governor, took possession of *Bouchain* with a detachment of the troops that formed the siege.

The regiment remained at *Bouchain* until the works were repaired, and afterwards went into winter quarters.

On the 12th of October, Charles III., the claimant to the throne of Spain, was elected Emperor of Germany by the title of Charles VI., his brother Joseph having died at Vienna in the preceding April. This circumstance materially affected the war, and inclined Great Britain to agree to peace; for the consolidation of Spain with the Empire of Germany would have perilled the balance of power in Europe as much as the anticipated union of the crowns of France and Spain. The course of events had also shown, that a French and not an Austrian Prince, was the choice of the Spanish nation.

1711 Louis the Fourteenth, finding his armies defeated and dispirited, his fortresses wrested from him, and the victorious troops of the allies prepared to penetrate into the interior of France, at length sued for peace, negotiations for which were shortly afterwards commenced.

1712 In the early part of April, 1712, the regiment once more took the field, and on the 19th of that month encamped near Tournay, where the Duke of Ormond arrived on the 9th of May, and took command of the army, the Duke of Marlborough having, for a political cause, been removed from his military appointments.

On the 19th of May, the army advanced, and on the 21st encamped on the hills of St. Denis, near Bouchain; thence proceeding across the Scheldt, arrived a few days afterwards near the frontier of France. The siege of *Quesnoy* was subsequently undertaken, and General Fagel invested the place on the 8th of June, but the trenches were not opened until the 19th of that month. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment formed part of the covering army under the Duke of Ormond at Chateau-Cambresis, but was not engaged in any act of direct hostility. The garrison beat a parley on the 3rd July, and on the following day the town was surrendered. Soon afterwards a suspension of arms was proclaimed between the British and French, preparatory to a treaty of peace, and the Duke of Ormond withdrew, with the troops under his orders, to Ghent, from whence several corps were detached to take possession of the fortress of Dunkirk, which city the French King delivered into the hands of the British, as a pledge of his sincerity in the negociations for a treaty of peace.

On the 17th of July, 1712, when the English army, under the command of the Duke of Ormond separated from the Allies, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment mustered 670 men, on which day it marched from Cam-

bresis towards Ghent, where Major-General Sabine 1712
remained with his regiment, in command of the citadel, until the signing of the Treaty of Utrecht on the 11th of April, 1713. By this famous treaty the Protestant succes- 1713
sion in England was recognised by Louis XIV.; the separation of the crowns of Spain and France secured; the harbour of Dunkirk demolished; Nova Scotia, Hudson's Bay, Newfoundland, and St. Christopher's ceded to England; Naples, Milan, and the Spanish Netherlands yielded to the Emperor of Germany. Sicily was separated from Naples, and transferred to the Duke of Savoy, with the regal title; and the Dutch obtained Namur, Charleroi, and other strong places for a barrier. Gibraltar and Minorca, which had been taken by the English during the war, were also ceded to Great Britain.

The regiment shortly afterwards returned to England, 1714
and was subsequently stationed in Ireland, where it received the news of the decease of Queen Anne on the 1st of August, 1714, and of the accession of King George the First to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland.

The following announcement appeared in the London Gazette of the 9th of November, 1714:—

"His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Major-
"General Joseph Sabine to be Colonel of His Royal
"Highness *the Prince of Wales's own Royal Regiment of*
"*Welsh Fuzeliers.*"*

In August, 1715, the Earl of Mar withdrew from court, 1715
and in the following month erected the standard of rebel-

* As Major-General Joseph Sabine had been Colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment since April, 1705, the announcement, in the 'London Gazette' of November, 1714, was a renewal of the Commission upon the accession of King George I., and had reference only to the change of title of the regiment in honor of the Prince of Wales, who succeeded to the throne on the decease of his father King George I. on the 11th of June, 1727.

1715 lion in Scotland, by proclaiming the *Pretender*, King of Great Britain and Ireland. This circumstance occasioned the TWENTY-THIRD regiment to be removed to England, to replace other regiments ordered to proceed to the north to crush the rebellion. The regiment landed at Chester on the 9th of October, and was quartered in the neighbourhood. The rebels, assembled under the Earl of Derwentwater and Mr. Forster, were compelled to surrender at Preston, in Lancashire, on the 13th of November, to General Carpenter, in the evening of which day the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments, under the command of General Wills, arrived at Preston. On the same day was fought the battle of *Sheriffmuir*, near Dumblaine, between the Duke of Argyle and the Earl of Mar, and both parties claimed the victory. Towards the end of December, the *Pretender* arrived in Scotland, and assumed all the ensigns of royalty. He held his court at Scone, and his head-quarters were at Perth. But the Highland chieftains, finding it impossible to resist the royal forces, resolved to abandon the enterprise. They, however, burnt several villages to distress the Duke of Argyle in his march, who
1716 in January, 1716, obliged them to abandon Perth, whence they retired to Montrose, where the *Pretender* escaped on board a French ship, together with the Earl of Mar and other adherents. After this the rebels dispersed to the Highlands.

The regiment was subsequently stationed at Harwich, and continued on the Home Establishment for several years.

1717 Charles XII., King of Sweden, in the year 1717, made preparations for a descent in favour of the *Pretender*, in consequence of His Britannic Majesty having purchased the duchies of Bremen and Verden of the King of Denmark, who had conquered them from the Swedes; the

first attempt was defeated by sending Admiral Sir George Byng to the Baltic; and King Charles being killed in the following year at the siege of Frederickshall, in Norway, the alliance, which he had formed with Peter the Great of Russia and the Spanish monarch, for raising the *Pretender* to the throne of Great Britain, was dissolved. 1717

During the year 1717, the regiment remained at Harwich.

In July, 1718, the King of Spain having taking Sardinia, and invaded Sicily, the "*Quadruple Alliance*" was formed between Great Britain, France, Germany, and Holland. War was declared against Spain in December by England and France. 1718

During the year 1718, the regiment was stationed at Harwich, Rochester, Landguard Fort, and Tilbury.

The *Pretender* arrived at Madrid in the beginning of the year 1719, and the expedition, which had been some time in preparation for the invasion of Great Britain, sailed from Cadiz; but the Spanish fleet was dispersed by a violent storm, and only two frigates reached Scotland. 1719

The Spanish troops, which landed in Scotland in April, were joined by about two thousand Highlanders. To oppose this force, Major-General Wightman proceeded from Inverness with three troops of the second dragoons, the eleventh, fourteenth, and fifteenth regiments of foot, and on the 10th of June attacked the insurgents at *Glenshiel*, near the pass of Strachell, and completely defeated them. The Spaniards surrendered on the following day, and the Marquis of Tullibardine, Earl of Seaforth, and other rebel leaders, fled to the Continent.

An expedition was projected by the British Government against Corunna, and the armament under General Viscount Cobham sailed in September; but circumstances occurred that occasioned an attack to be made on Vigo,

1719 which was taken, and afterwards abandoned, together with Rondondella and Pontevedra. After these services the expedition returned to England.

1720 In January, 1720, the King of Spian accepted the conditions of peace, and acceded to the "*Quadruple Alliance,*" the principal design of which was to guarantee the succession in Great Britain and France, and to confirm the partition of the Spanish monarchy.

1722 During the year 1722, the regiment was stationed at Edinburgh Castle.

1723 In the early part of the year 1723, the regiment was ordered to proceed to London, in consequence of the threatened invasion, and discovery of a plot at home to seize the Tower. The TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments were encamped in Hyde Park.

1725 The regiment returned to Scotland in 1725, and was stationed at Edinburgh.

1726 In the year 1726, the regiment was stationed in England, where it remained for the following nine years.

The possessions of which Spain had been deprived by the Treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, had been yielded with reluctance, and in the year 1726 the Spanish Monarch assembled an army in Andalusia under the command of General the Count de la Torres, for the purpose of recapturing Gibraltar.

1727 In February, 1727, the garrison of Gibraltar, under the command of the Lieut.-Governor, Colonel Jasper Clayton, opened its fire on the besieging army. Several regiments were ordered to embark to reinforce the garrison of Gibraltar, but the TWENTY-THIRD, ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS remained in England. King George I. died at Osnaburg on the 11th of June; on the 18th of that month hostilities ceased, and Gibraltar continued under the dominion of Great Britain.

On the 18th of May, 1728, the eleventh and TWENTY-THIRD regiments were reviewed on Hounslow Heath by King George II., and, according to the 'London Gazette,' the two regiments "made a very fine appearance." The TWENTY-THIRD was subsequently ordered to proceed to Chester. 1728

King George II. concluded at Seville a peace between Great Britain, France, and Spain, in November, 1729, by which it was agreed that mutual reparation should be made for the ships and effects captured on both sides. 1729

In the year 1735, the regiment was stationed at Edinburgh Castle, where George Augustus Eliott, afterwards Lord Heathfield, the celebrated governor of Gibraltar, joined the regiment as a volunteer. 1735

General Joseph Sabine died on the 24th of October, 1739, and Lieutenant-Colonel Newsham Peers, of the TWENTY-THIRD, was promoted to the Colonelcy of the regiment on the 23rd of November, 1739. 1739

In the two previous years, the British merchants had made great complaints against the Spanish depredations in America, and on the 23rd of October, 1739, war was proclaimed against Spain by Great Britain; the events in Germany of the following year finally caused a general European war, and disturbed the long interval of comparative peace which had succeeded the treaty of Utrecht.

These events were occasioned by the decease of Charles the Sixth, Emperor of Germany, on the 20th of October, 1740. The Emperor was the last Prince of the House of Austria, and he was succeeded in his hereditary dominions by his eldest daughter, the Archduchess Maria Theresa, who married, in 1736, the Duke Francis Stephen of Lorraine. The Duke, in the following year, became Grand Duke of Tuscany. The Archduchess, on the day 1740

1740 following her father's death, ascended the throne of Hungary, Bohemia, and Austria, and declared her husband co-regent in the government of her dominions.

Although the possessions of Austria were guaranteed to the Archduchess Maria Theresa by the German Edict, known in history as the "*Pragmatic Sanction*,"* to which nearly all the powers of Europe had been parties, yet the succession of the Archduchess to her father's Austrian hereditary territories was disputed by several claimants; and among others by Charles Albert, Elector of Bavaria, who was afterwards elected Emperor of Germany. The King of Prussia also revived a dormant claim to Silesia, which he invaded in November; the Prussian monarch offered Maria Theresa sufficient money to resist all her enemies, on condition of ceding Silesia to him, but the proposition was indignantly rejected.

These circumstances occasioned the contest, which is designated the "*War of the Austrian Succession*," in which most of the European powers were ultimately engaged.

1741 The King of France supported the Elector of Bavaria, while King George II. supported the Archduchess Maria Theresa; and in April, 1741, the British Parliament voted a subsidy of 300,000*l.* to the Queen of Hungary and Bohemia. His Majesty also informed the Parliament, that the Queen of Hungary had demanded the twelve thousand troops he had stipulated to furnish; and accordingly he had requested the King of Denmark and the King of Sweden, to hold in readiness their quotas of six thousand men each, for the maintenance of which they had received subsidies from England. King George II. was drawn into the war

* The "*Pragmatic Sanction*" was published by the Emperor Charles VI. on the 17th of April 1713, whereby, in case of his having no male issue, his daughters were to succeed to his hereditary dominions, in preference to the sons of his late brother Joseph I.

from the apprehension of losing Hanover, but at this period 1741
His Majesty abstained from being a principal in the contest, by agreeing with the French sovereign Louis XV. to give his vote, as Elector of Hanover, to the Elector of Bavaria for the dignity of Emperor of Germany, and thereby to preserve the neutrality of his Hanoverian territories. Several British regiments were ordered to be prepared for continental service, but no embarkation took place during the year 1741.

During the summer of 1741, the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were encamped on Lexden Heath, near Colchester.

The Elector of Bavaria was chosen Emperor of Germany 1742
at Frankfort on the Maine, and crowned, as Charles VII., on the 11th of February, 1742: he was, however, a most unhappy prince; his electoral dominions were overrun by the Austrians, the French were driven out of Bohemia, and the King of Prussia, under the mediation of King George II., concluded a peace at Breslau with the Queen of Hungary.

The King of England resolving to take a more active part in the war, an army of sixteen thousand men, under Field-Marshal the Earl of Stair, was ordered to be embarked for the Netherlands in the summer of 1742, in order to support the Queen of Hungary.

On the 28th of April, the regiment was reviewed on Kew Green by His Majesty King George II., and in May, the TWENTY-THIRD and other regiments embarked for Flanders;* but no action took place during that year, the troops being suddenly marched into winter quarters, after every preparation had been made for active operations.

* See list of British regiments which served in Flanders and Germany, between 1742 and 1748, during the "*War of the Austrian Succession.*" —Appendix, page 175.

1743 Early in the year 1743, the Earl of Stair marched his army towards the Rhine, and in May encamped near Hoechst, on the Maine.

From thence the allied troops proceeded to Kellenbuch and Aschaffenberg, where they found themselves hemmed in, and their supplies cut off by the able dispositions of the French commander, Marshal Noailles, who had crossed the Rhine in the beginning of June, with an army of sixty thousand men. In this state His Majesty King George the Second found matters when he assumed the command of the army on the 9th of June. A retreat was determined upon, and commenced on the 26th of June. His Majesty had no sooner quitted Aschaffenberg than it was seized by the French. He had not proceeded above three leagues when he perceived that the enemy, to the number of thirty thousand, had crossed the river farther down at Selingenstadt, and was drawn up at the village of *Dettingen*, to dispute his passage. The route of the allied army lay between a mountain and the Maine, and the French army was drawn up with this narrow pass in its front. In this situation the destruction of the allies seemed inevitable; but Marshal Noailles having repassed the river, the Duke de Grammont, who succeeded to the command, advanced to the attack through the defile, thus foregoing all the advantages of his position. The British troops, under the immediate eye of their King, on the 27th of June, received the impetuous attack of the French with such steadiness and intrepidity, that the latter were forced to retire, and recross the Maine with the greatest precipitation, and the loss of five thousand men. The loss of the Allies was two thousand, of which the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS sustained fifteen men killed. Colonel Peers was severely wounded in the throat, of which he afterwards died. Lieutenant Price and twenty-seven men were wounded.

XXIII.

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.



Major-General John Huske was removed from the thirty-second regiment to the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, on the 28th of July, 1743, in succession to Colonel Peers, who died of the wounds received at the battle of Dettingen.* 1743

This victory, though honorable to those by whom it was achieved, was productive of no decisive results. The army, after some unimportant movements, retired into winter quarters in October.

On the 20th of March, 1744, France declared war 1744

* Although the results of the *Battle of Dettingen*, fought on the 27th of June, 1743, were not equal to those attending the victories gained over the French by Edward the Third and Henry the Fifth, yet there are circumstances which render the conflict at *Dettingen* similar to those of *Creçy* and *Agincourt*. At *Creçy*, on the 26th of August, 1346, King *Edward the Third* and his Son *Edward the Black Prince*, were present; and at *Dettingen King George the Second* was accompanied by his son the *Duke of Cumberland*. It was the *début* of both the Royal Princes on the tented plain, and the chivalrous bearing of the *Black Prince*, particularly his behaviour to the prisoners, finds a parallel in the conduct of the *Duke of Cumberland*, who refused to have his wound attended to, until the surgeons had examined that of a French officer, the Count De Fenelon, who had been taken prisoner and conveyed to the Duke's tent. "Begin," said His Royal Highness, "with the wound of the French officer; he is more dangerously hurt than I am, and stands more in need of assistance."

The disadvantage, under which the British fought at *Dettingen*, was equal to that at *Agincourt*, and the impetuosity of the enemy, in both instances, prevented the English army perishing from want of provisions.

All these battles are likewise noted for the number of the French Royal family and nobility who were present.

King George the Second, when Hereditary Prince of Brunswick Lunenburg, took part in the victory gained by the famous Duke of Marlborough at Oudenarde on the 11th July, 1708; and the battle of Dettingen is further remarkable as being the last action in which a British Monarch commanded the army.

The want of provisions and tents, unfortunately, compelled the victors to abandon the field of battle, otherwise Dettingen might have rivalled many of the achievements recorded in British History.

1744 against England, and on the 29th of that month a counter declaration was made by Great Britain, in which the French monarch was accused of violating the Pragmatic Sanction, and of assisting the son of the Pretender in his designs on the British throne. The French, during the year 1744, possessed themselves of several towns in the Netherlands, but no other event of importance occurred.*

1745 The following year is memorable in the annals of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS. In the spring of 1745, a French army of seventy-six thousand men, commanded by Marshal Saxe, invested Tournay. The Duke of Cumberland, who had assumed the command of the allied army of British, Austrians, and Dutch, resolved to attempt its relief, though his force did not exceed fifty thousand.

His Royal Highness accordingly advanced, and on the 9th of May took up a position at Maulbré, in sight of the French army, which was strongly posted behind the village of *Fontenoy*. The following day was employed by the allies in driving in some of the enemy's outposts, and clearing some defiles through which they were to march to the attack, while the French completed their batteries, and made the most formidable preparations for the reception of their enemy. The Duke of Cumberland began his march at two o'clock in the morning of the 11th of May; the action commenced at nine, and lasted till three. The efforts of the British infantry, who began the attack, were at first successful: they drove the French from their lines; but the left, composed of Austrian and Dutch troops, failing in its attack of the village of Fontenoy, the British were compelled to retire with great loss. They rallied, however, and again charging the enemy, drove him

* "*Vide* List of Battles, Sieges, &c., in the Netherlands and Germany, during the *War of the Austrian Succession*."—Appendix page 174.

back to his entrenchments with great slaughter; but, from 1745
wanting the support of the left wing, the British troops became exposed to the tremendous fire of the French batteries, and a retreat became necessary, which was effected in good order.

The TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS had Lieutenants Weaver, Price, Forster, and Isaac, four serjeants, one hundred and eighty-one privates, killed; Captains Hickman, Cary, and Drysdale, Lieutenants Bernard, Izard, Awbry, Clarke, Eyre, Roberts, and Rolt, six serjeants, and seventy-one privates, wounded; Major Lort, Captains Sabine, Taylor, and Johnston, Lieutenants Berners, Gregg, Haws, and Lort, five serjeants, and thirty-four privates, missing.

While the army was in Flanders, Prince Charles Edward, eldest son of the Pretender, arrived in Scotland, and being joined by several clans, he asserted his father's pretensions to the throne. Unaccustomed to hear the sound of war at their own gates, the British people were at first alarmed, but soon recovering, they evinced loyalty and union in sustaining the fixed rights of their Sovereign and in defending their own liberties. The volunteer associations were not, however, ready to take the field for some time, and in October, 1745, the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, with several other regiments, were recalled from the Continent, on account of the breaking out of the rebellion in Scotland. In December, the regiment was sent to the coast of Kent and Sussex, in anticipation of a descent by the French.

The TWENTY-THIRD remained in England until the 1746
suppression of the Rebellion had been effected by the defeat of Prince Charles, at the battle of *Culloden* on the 16th of April, 1746.

In 1747 the regiment was again removed to the theatre 1747

1747 of war in the Netherlands, where it arrived in time to take part in the operations of the campaign. On the 2nd of July, the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were engaged in the battle of *Laffeld*, or *Val*, where they again suffered severely from the misconduct of the Dutch allies. A squadron of their horse giving way, fled with such precipitation and confusion, that they overthrew and trampled down the infantry in their rear; two platoons of the Fusiliers fired upon them; but the French cavalry, charging after the fugitives, increased the confusion, and penetrated to the centre of the Allied Army. The Duke of Cumberland exerted himself with great courage and activity to remedy the disorder; but the defeat would have been total, had it not been for the gallantry of General Sir John Ligonier, who, at the head of three regiments of British cavalry and some squadrons of Imperial horse, charged the whole of the French cavalry with such impetuosity and success, that he overthrew everything before him, and enabled the army to effect an orderly retreat to Maestricht.

In this battle, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS had Captain Johnston and one man killed; Captains Fortescue, Izard, and Baldwin, Lieutenants Eyre, Rich, Gregg, Aday, M'Laughlan, and Hewett, and forty-two men wounded; and Lieutenant Oakes and one hundred and eighty-seven men missing.

1748 The regiment was again in the field in the summer of 1748, but hostilities were at length terminated by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, which was signed on the 7th of October, 1748. By it all the great treaties from that of Westphalia in 1648, which first recognised the principle of a balance of power in Europe, to that of Vienna in 1738, were renewed and confirmed. Prussia retained Silesia, and the Empress-Queen Maria Theresa was guaran-

teed the possession of her hereditary dominions, according 1748
to the Pragmatic Sanction. France surrendered her conquests in Flanders, and the English those in the East and West Indies; so that Great Britain gained nothing by the war, save the glory of having supported the German sovereignty of Maria Theresa, and of adhering to former treaties. During the winter the regiment returned to England.

In the Royal Warrant, dated the 1st of July, 1751, for 1751
ensuring uniformity in the clothing, standards, and colours of the army, and regulating the number and rank of regiments, the following directions are given for the TWENTY-THIRD, or the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS:—

"In the centre of their colours, the device of the Prince "of Wales, namely, three feathers issuing out of the "Prince's Coronet; in the three corners of the second "colour, the badges of Edward the Black Prince, namely, "the RISING SUN, RED DRAGON, and the THREE FEA-"THERS in the CORONET; with the motto, '*Ich Dien.*'

"On the grenadier caps, the FEATHERS as in the colours, "WHITE HORSE, and motto '*Nec aspera terrent*,' on "the flap.

"The same badge of the THREE FEATHERS and "motto, '*Ich dien*,' on the drums and bells of arms; rank "of the regiment underneath."

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment remained in Great Bri- 1755
tain until the year 1755, when it embarked for Minorca. . .

While the regiment was stationed at Minorca, the 1756
undetermined limits of the British and French territory in North America occasioned a war between the two kingdoms; and early in 1756, the King of France prepared a powerful armament for the capture of the island of Minorca. The regiment assisted in the glorious, though unsuccessful, defence of Fort St. Philip in that

1756 island. The troops at Minorca consisted of four regiments, the fourth, or King's Own, the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS,* the twenty-fourth, and thirty-fourth, which together mustered not more than two thousand four hundred and sixty duty men, a force too small even for the defence of Fort St. Philip. His Majesty's Government, having received intelligence of extensive preparations in the port of Toulon, the object of which was generally supposed to be an attack on Minorca, despatched, early in April, a fleet under Admiral Byng for the defence of that island. The French force destined for the reduction of Minorca amounted to sixteen thousand men, and was commanded by the Duc de Richelieu. The armament sailed from Toulon on the 13th of April, 1756, appeared off Citadella on the 18th, and disembarked on the following day. A few days sufficed to make the French masters of the whole island, with the exception of Fort St. Philip, into which all the troops were withdrawn, after having broken up the roads and bridges, and opposed every possible obstacle to the movements of the enemy. The works of the fort were strong in themselves, but they were at this time in a ruinous condition, notwithstanding the efforts of the governor, General Blakeney, to put them in a posture of defence.

The enemy entered the town of Mahon on the 27th of April, and commenced their approaches under an incessant fire from the fort, which caused them much loss. The French batteries opened on the 8th of May, but they were soon discovered to be at too great a distance, and to be

* At the commencement of the siege they were commanded by General Huske, Colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD Regiment, and mustered 1 major, 4 captains, 14 subalterns, 1 chaplain, 1 adjutant, 1 surgeon, 1 assistant surgeon, 1 quarter-master, 28 serjeants, 27 corporals, 17 drummers, 616 privates, of whom only 6 were sick.

liable to much annoyance from the guns of the fort; they 1756
therefore, on the 12th, pushed forward a body of troops, which took possession of the town of St. Philip, and commenced erecting batteries under cover of the houses, within two hundred yards of the fort, while the garrison kept up a continued fire, which destroyed in the day the works thrown up during the night, besides causing the enemy a great loss of men. In consequence of this attack on Minorca, war was declared against France on the 18th of May.

On the 19th of June, the fleet of Admiral Byng appeared off the island, and the exertions of the besieged were redoubled: the elation of hope, however, was but of short continuance, for on the 22nd, the French fired a *feu-de-joie* in honor of their pretended victory over the English fleet. The siege was carried on with the greatest vigour until the 27th, when the enemy's fire had done such execution on the defences of the fort, that the Duc de Richelieu judged that the moment had arrived for giving the assault. At ten o'clock that night, the enemy issued from their works to the different attacks, which were made simultaneously on so many different points, that the garrison, *worn out with seventy days' incessant duty*, were unable to repel them in all. The assailants were, however, received with the most determined courage, and repulsed several times with immense slaughter: strong in numbers, however, they as often returned to the assault; and after a long and sanguinary contest, ultimately succeeded in effecting a lodgment in the Queen's redoubt, and in the Anstruther and Argyle batteries, the last of which blew up with three companies of French grenadiers.

The firing having continued from ten o'clock at night until four in the morning, the French general beat a parley, for leave to bury the dead and carry off the wounded,

1756 and a cessation of arms was agreed on, of which the French took the advantage of strengthening the force in the lodgments they had effected. The success of the assailants, on this night, was purchased at the expense of two thousand men; while the loss of the garrison did not exceed forty-seven killed and wounded. The governor, however, considering the worn-out condition of his men and the shattered state of the works, and one of the principal outworks being in possession of the enemy, summoned a council of war, in which it was unanimously agreed that the fort could not sustain another assault. Terms of surrender were accordingly proposed, and on the 29th of June a capitulation was signed, allowing the garrison all the honors of war. "The noble and vigorous defence which the "English have made" (says the Duc de Richelieu in his reply to the second article proposed by General Blakeney) "having deserved all marks of esteem and veneration that "every military person ought to show to such actions,—and "Marshal Richelieu being desirous also to show to General "Blakeney the regard due to the brave defence he has "made,—grants to the garrison all the honors of war that "they can enjoy under the circumstances of their going "out for an embarkation, to wit, firelocks on their shoul-"ders, drums beating, colours flying, twenty cartridges "for each man, and also lighted matches."

Beatson, in his *Naval and Military Memoirs*, has thus alluded to the conduct of the garrison of Minorca:—

"Thus did four regiments,* and one company of artillery, "maintain the fort against such numbers of the enemy, "by sea and land, for such a length of time, as can, "perhaps, scarcely be paralleled in history. The terms "on which the fort was at last surrendered by a handful

* The 4th, 23rd, 24th, and 34th regiments.

" of men, so distressed, so shattered, and so neglected, 1756
" remain a lasting monument to their honor."

The total casualties of the siege were eighty-nine killed, three hundred and sixty-seven wounded, one missing, twenty-three died of wounds, and ten of disease. The loss of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS exceeded that of any other regiment, being twenty-eight killed and ninety wounded, among whom was Lieutenant Price; five died of wounds and two of disease.

The garrison embarked on the 12th of July, and proceeded to Gibraltar, from whence the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS soon returned to England, and were quartered in the Isle of Wight. At this period the army and navy were increased, and among other augmentations, fifteen of the regiments of infantry were authorised to raise second battalions from the 25th of August, 1756.

In 1758, these additional battalions were formed into 1758
distinct corps, and numbered from the sixty-first to the seventy-fifth regiment. By this arrangement the second battalion of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS was constituted the present Sixty-eighth regiment.*

In the summer of 1758, the Government resolved on making a descent on the French coast, by which it was expected to make such a diversion in favour of the British Allies in Germany as would obviate the necessity of send-

2nd Batt.	Constituted.	2nd Batt.	Constituted.
* 3rd Foot,	the 61st Regiment.	24th Foot,	the 69th Regiment.
4th „	the 62nd Regiment.	31st „	the 70th Regiment.
8th „	the 63rd Regiment.	32nd „	the 71st Regiment.
11th „	the 64th Regiment.	33rd „	the 72nd Regiment.
12th „	the 65th Regiment.	34th „	the 73rd Regiment.
19th „	the 66th Regiment.	36th „	the 74th Regiment.
20th „	the 67th Regiment.	37th „	the 75th Regiment.
23rd „	the 68th Regiment.		

The 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, and 75th regiments, were disbanded after the peace of Fontainebleau in 1763.

1758 ing them a reinforcement of troops. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS formed part of the army employed on this occasion, which amounted to fourteen thousand men, and was commanded by the Duke of Marlborough. The embarkation commenced on the 24th of May; the expedition sailed on the 1st of June, and on the 5th stood in for the bay of Cancale, two leagues to the eastward of *St. Maloes*, where a landing was effected without loss. The army was put in motion on the 7th, and took up a position close to *St. Maloes*, which the Commander-in-Chief reconnoitred. Having observed several houses filled with naval and military stores, which were not protected by the guns of the town, a detachment was sent after dark to set fire to them, a service which was most effectually performed, thirteen vessels of war, besides several merchantmen and prodigious quantities of stores, being destroyed.

St. Maloes, though incapable of making an effectual resistance against a regular siege, was considered too strong to be attempted by a *coup-de-main*; the army, therefore, returned to Cancale Bay, where it embarked on the 10th and 12th, having lost thirty men from the time of landing.

The fleet left Cancale on the 21st of June, and on the 23rd made the Isle of Wight; but the wind changing, it again bore away for the coast of France, and on the 26th was close to Havre de Grace. Preparations were made for landing, but, on reconnoitring the coast, the enemy was found to be so well prepared, that the design was abandoned, and the fleet steered for *Cherbourg*, where it anchored on the 29th. Here the preparations for a descent were renewed; but a strong gale blowing on shore, occasioned such a surf, that it was deemed too hazardous to land the troops. The gale meanwhile in-

creased to such a degree, that several of the transports 1758
were driven from their anchors, and ran foul of each other; and the whole fleet was in considerable danger. The provisions and forage were nearly exhausted, and sickness began to show itself among the troops. Under these circumstances, the design against Cherbourg was abandoned; the fleet returned to England; and the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, early in July, once more took up their quarters in the Isle of Wight.

Soon after this, the Government considering it necessary to reinforce the army in Germany, a brigade, consisting of the twentieth, TWENTY-THIRD, and twenty-fifth regiments, was ordered from the Isle of Wight, under the command of the Duke of Marlborough.

The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS disembarked at Halzoone, near Embden, on the 2nd of August, 1758, and on the 4th commenced their march to join the allied army under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. They effected their junction about the middle of the same month; but though they had much severe service in marching and countermarching, during the remainder of the campaign, they had no opportunity of signalizing themselves against the enemy. On the 13th of November they went into winter quarters in Munster.

Operations were commenced early in the spring of 1759
1759, and the allies gained some advantage; but when the French forces were assembled, they possessed so great a superiority in numbers, that Prince Ferdinand was obliged to fall back as the enemy advanced. A series of retrograde movements brought the allied army to the vicinity of *Minden*, situated on the bank of the river Weser, in Westphalia.

The French army, commanded by Marshal de Contades, took possession of *Minden*, and occupied a strong position near that city.

1759 Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick manœuvred: he detached one body of troops under his nephew, the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick, and appeared to leave another exposed to the attack of the whole of the opposing army. The destruction of this corps was resolved upon by the French Commander, and he put his army in motion for that purpose during the night between the 31st of July and the 1st of August. While the French were on the march, Prince Ferdinand advanced with the allied army, and early on the morning of the 1st of August, as the leading column of the enemy attained the summit of an eminence, it was surprised at discovering, instead of a few weak corps, the allied army formed in order of battle. Thus the French Marshal suddenly found himself committed, and under the necessity of fighting upon unfavourable ground. After some delay he formed line, and the battle commenced.

The TWENTY-THIRD, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Edward Sacheverel Pole, with the twelfth and thirty-seventh British regiments, followed by the twentieth, twenty-fifth, and fifty-first, under Major-General Waldegrave and Major-General Kingsley, flanked by two battalions of Hanoverian foot guards and the Hanoverian regiment of Hardenberg, and supported by three regiments of Hanoverians and a battalion of Hessian foot guards, advanced to attack the left wing of the French army, where Marshal de Contades had posted the *élite* of his cavalry, the carabineers, and gendarmes. The twelfth, TWENTY-THIRD, and thirty-seventh regiments led the attack with signal intrepidity: as they moved forward in firm array, the enemy's artillery opened a tremendous fire, which rent chasms in the ranks, and the French carabineers advanced to charge them; but a rolling volley from the three British regiments smote the hostile squadrons, when many men fell, and the survivors reined up their horses,

wheeled about, and galloped to the rear; their artillery 1759
recommencing its fire as the repulsed squadrons withdrew. The Hanoverian brigade came up on the left of the twelfth, TWENTY-THIRD, and thirty-seventh, and the other three British regiments on the right. Soon, another line of French cavaliers, gay in splendid uniforms, and formidable in numbers, came forward, the soldiers shouting, and waving their swords; but they were struck in mid-onset by a tempest of bullets from the British regiments, broken, and driven back with severe loss. Still pressing forward with a conquering violence, the three brigades became exposed to the fire of the enemy's infantry on their flanks; but nothing could stop them: encouraged by success, and confident in their own prowess, they followed up their advantage, routed the whole of the French cavalry, and drove it from the field.* Two brigades of French infantry endeavoured to stem the torrent of battle; but they were quickly broken and dispersed.† A body of Saxon troops made a show of coming

* "Notwithstanding the loss they sustained before they could get up "to the enemy; notwithstanding the repeated attacks of the enemy's "cavalry; notwithstanding a fire of musketry well kept up by the "enemy's infantry; notwithstanding their being exposed in front and "flank, such was the unshaken firmness of those troops (12th, 20th, 23rd, "25th, 37th, 51st, and brigade of Hanoverians) that nothing could stop "them, and the whole body of French cavalry was totally routed."—*Campaigns of Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick.*

† "The brunt of the battle was almost wholly sustained by the English "infantry and some corps of Hanoverians, who stood the reiterated "charges of so many bodies of horse, (the strength and glory of the "French armies,) with a resolution, steadiness, and expertness in their "manœuvres, which was never exceeded, perhaps never equalled: they "cut to pieces or entirely routed those bodies. Two brigades of foot "attempted to support them; but they vanished before the English "infantry."—*Annual Register.*

"Six regiments of English infantry, and two battalions of Hanoverian "guards, not only bore the whole brunt of the French carabineers and "gendarmerie, but absolutely broke every body of horse and foot that "advanced to attack them on the left and in the centre."—*Smollett.*

1759 down upon the conquering British regiments, but they were soon put to flight, and the triumphant English continued their splendid career, overpowering all opposition.

The action commenced between six and seven o'clock in the morning: about nine the enemy began to give way; a general confusion followed; and at ten o'clock the whole French army fled in disorder, with the loss of forty-three pieces of cannon, ten stand of colours, and seven standards.

The loss of the allies fell chiefly on the British regiments; that of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS was four serjeants and thirty-one rank and file killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Sacheverel Pole, Captains William Fowler and John Fox, Captain-Lieutenant Richard Bolton, Lieutenants Charles Reynell, Joseph Patterson, Arthur Barber, Grey Grove, and George Orpin, Second Lieutenant David Ferguson, six serjeants, three drummers, and one hundred and fifty-three rank and file wounded; and ten rank and file missing.*

In the general orders of the following day, it was stated, "that His Serene Highness orders his greatest thanks to "be given to the whole army for their bravery and good "behaviour yesterday, particularly to the British infantry "and the two battalions of Hanoverian guards. His "Serene Highness declares publicly, that next to God, he "attributes the glory of the day to the intrepidity and "extraordinary behaviour of the troops."

The distinguished conduct of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment on this occasion was afterwards honored with the King's authority to bear the word "MINDEN" on its

* See List of Officers belonging to the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS on the 1st of August, 1759, the *date* of the BATTLE of *Minden*, Appendix, page 176.

colours and appointments, in commemoration of its gal- 1759
lantry.*

Minden was taken possession of on the following day, and the French army was forced to make a precipitate retreat to a distance of about two hundred miles. The allies followed the retiring enemy with great energy, ascending precipices, passing morasses, overcoming numerous difficulties, and pressing upon and attacking the retreating army, with so much resolution, that several French corps were nearly annihilated, and many prisoners, with a great quantity of baggage, were captured. The TWENTY-THIRD shared in the hazards, toils, and conflicts of this brilliant success, and when the weather became too severe for the troops to remain in the field, the regiment went into cantonments in the bishopric of Osnaburg in Westphalia.

The regiment left its quarters on the 5th of May, 1760, 1760
to take the field, and on the 12th of that month it arrived in the vicinity of Paderborn: it was joined by a numerous body of recruits from England, to replace the losses of the preceding campaign.

A hundred thousand French troops took the field under the Duke of Broglio, with a separate corps under the Count de St. Germain, and so far outnumbered the allied army, that the latter was obliged to act on the defensive. The TWENTY-THIRD took part in numerous operations, and towards the end of May they were encamped on the heights near Fritzlar; in July they proceeded to the vicinity of Saxenhausen, from whence they retreated towards Cassel, and encamped near Kalle.

Upwards of thirty-thousand French troops crossed the

* The six British regiments of infantry which took part in the glorious battle of MINDEN were the 12th, 20th, 23rd, 25th, 37th, and 51st regiments.

1760 river Dymel, and took post near *Warbourg*, to cut off the communication of the allies with Westphalia, when Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick quitted the camp at Kalle, and crossed the river to attack this portion of the French army. The battle commenced on the morning of the 31st of July, at which time the regiment, and other British infantry corps, were several miles from the scene of conflict. The grenadier company of the TWENTY-THIRD, however, being in advance, was sharply engaged, and highly distinguished itself: it had one serjeant and eleven privates killed; Captain Rainey, Lieutenant Mercer, and nineteen privates wounded. The remainder of the army hurried forward with extraordinary zeal to share in the action: it was a hot summer's day; the soldiers had a rugged country to traverse, morasses to pass, and numerous difficulties to overcome, and they exerted themselves with so much energy, that several men dropped on the road;* but before they arrived at Warbourg, the French troops had retreated across the river.

The regiment afterwards encamped near Warbourg, and on the 1st of October proceeded towards the Lower Rhine, in order to form part of the separate corps under the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick, who invested the town of *Wesel*, in the duchy of Cleves, on the 3rd of October. A numerous French force advanced to raise the siege, and encamped behind the convent of *Campen*. The Hereditary Prince determined to surprise the enemy's camp at Rhynberg, and for this purpose the confederate army marched at ten o'clock in the night of the 15th of October; but it was found necessary to dislodge a corps which occupied the convent: this occasioned some firing; the French camp was alarmed, and the soldiers immediately formed for battle. The Hereditary Prince

* London Gazette.

attacked the French army before daylight on the 16th of October, and the TWENTY-THIRD regiment was engaged in a desperate musketry fight for many hours; it was opposed to very superior numbers, and the French had the advantage of a wood. The fire of musketry was continued from five in the morning until nine at night, when the Prince, finding it impossible to force the enemy from the wood, ordered a retreat. 1760

The TWENTY-THIRD had two serjeants and nineteen rank and file killed; Major Marlay, Captains Gould and Fowler, Lieutenants Ferguson, Grove, Orpin, Blakeney, Mecan, four serjeants, and ninety-seven rank and file wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Pole, Captains Gould and Fowler, with forty-four rank and file, were taken prisoners.

The siege of Wesel was raised, and the regiment repassed the Rhine, and was cantoned in the Principality of Hesse.

On the 16th January, 1761, Lieut.-General the Honorable George Boscawen was appointed, by His Majesty King George III., Colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, from the twenty-ninth regiment, in succession to General John Huske, deceased. 1761

The enemy having amassed immense magazines in the country of Hesse, and on the Lower Rhine, the allied army made a sudden advance into the enemy's cantonments, and in February, 1761, captured several strong towns, and seized on numerous stores of provisions. The TWENTY-THIRD shared in this enterprise, advancing through a deep snow, and taking part in several important captures: when this service was performed, the regiment retired to its former quarters.

Again taking the field in June, the regiment was employed in several manœuvres, and in the middle of July it was in position near the Aest and Lippe rivers, in

1761 Prussian Westphalia. After several harassing marches, the regiment was stationed in front of the village of *Kirch Denkern*, and near to *Fellinghausen*, in the bishopric of Paderborn. The French, commanded by the Prince de Soubize and Marshal Broglio, attacked this post on the 15th of July; but the ground was maintained with firmness and resolution by the British infantry, and the enemy was repulsed with loss. The fire of the skirmishers was continued during the night, and at three o'clock on the following morning, the attack was repeated with fresh troops, but the position was gallantly maintained by the British and other regiments. After five hours' sharp fighting, some disorder appeared in the enemy's ranks, when the several brigades charged and routed the opposing battalions, which retreated with precipitation, abandoning their dead and wounded, together with several pieces of cannon.

The TWENTY-THIRD regiment, which formed part of Lieut.-General Conway's division, had no officers or men killed in this battle, the casualties being limited to one serjeant, and a few privates wounded.

The TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were stationed near Kirch Denkern until the 27th of July; they were subsequently employed in manœuvring and skirmishing in various parts of the bishopric of Paderborn and on the river Weser; in September they were employed in the country of Hesse. In the early part of November the regiment was engaged in several skirmishes in the electorate of Hanover, and was subsequently quartered in the bishopric of Osnaburg, where it passed the winter.*

* The following singular statement appeared in "*The London Gazette*," of the 17th November, 1761, which surpasses a similar incident recorded of the famous Lord Mayor of London, Sir Richard Whittington :—

In the spring of 1762, the regiment quitted its canton- 1762
ments in Osnaburg, and was formed in brigade with the same regiments, as in the preceding year. It was engaged, on the 24th of June, in the surprise of the French army encamped at *Graebenstein*, and commanded by Marshal D'Etrées and the Prince de Soubize.

The TWENTY-THIRD formed part of the reserve under the Marquis of Granby, who marched between two and three o'clock in the morning of that day, to the eminence opposite Furstenwald, in order to fall upon the left wing of the enemy. The troops under Prince Ferdinand also passed the Dymel at four o'clock in the morning, and the allied army arrived in presence of the enemy, before he had the least apprehension of being attacked. The French were surprised and confounded; they abandoned their camp, leaving their tents standing, and retreated towards Cassel: one division, under General Stainville, throwing itself into the woods of *Wilhelmstahl*, to cover the movement. This division was attacked, and ultimately forced to surrender: part of the division had before surrendered to Lord Granby's corps, and upon the coming up of the army, the remainder, after one fire, surrendered to the fifth fusiliers.

His Serene Highness stated in his despatch to His Majesty King George III., that "*all the troops behaved extremely well, and showed great zeal and willingness;*" and also that "*Lord Granby acquitted himself, upon this occasion, with remarkable valour, and had a great share in the victory.*"

The casualties of the allies amounted to about three

"The French have demanded from the country of Eischsfeld "and Hohenstein, *four hundred cats;* one hundred and eighty had "been already delivered to them. The motive for the demand is, "that the *mice eat up their magazines.*"

1762 hundred men, but it is not recorded that the TWENTY-THIRD regiment sustained any loss on this occasion.

A series of successful operations, in which the TWENTY-THIRD regiment was engaged, followed this victory. The enemy was forced to quit several strong posts; on the 21st of September, 1762, a most obstinate contest took place on the height of *Brucker-Muhl*, near *Amonebourg*, which continued, without intermission, from six o'clock in the morning until night put an end to the struggle. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS do not appear to have participated in this action, as they are not included in the list of killed and wounded, which amounted to about eight hundred men.

In the beginning of November the allies took Cassel, after which a suspension of hostilities was proclaimed, the preliminary articles of peace between France and England having been signed at *Fontainebleau* by the Duke of Bedford on the 3rd of that month.

By this treaty, the whole of Canada, part of Louisiana, together with Cape Breton, and the other islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, were ceded to Great Britain. In the West Indies, the islands of Tobago, Dominica, St. Vincent, and Grenada were retained by Great Britain; but Martinique, Guadaloupe, Marigalante, and St. Lucia were restored to France. In the East Indies, the French obtained the restitution of their settlements, but agreed not to erect any fortifications in Bengal. Minorca was restored to England in exchange for Belleisle, and the fortifications of Dunkirk were agreed to be demolished. Spain ceded Florida to Great Britain, in return for the restitution of the Havannah, Manilla, and all the places which Spain had lost since the commencement of the war.

1763 The regiment was quartered in the bishopric of Munster after the suspension of hostilities, and in the beginning of

1763, the thanks of Parliament were communicated to the army for its conduct during the war. In February the regiment marched through Holland to Williamstadt, where it embarked for England: its effective strength, according to the embarkation return, was twenty-nine officers, six hundred and eighty-nine non-commissioned officers and soldiers. 1763

The treaty of Fontainebleau was concluded at Paris on the 10th of February; the ratifications were exchanged on the 10th of March, and peace was proclaimed in London on the 22nd of that month.

For the next ten years the regiment remained in Great Britain, but in the summer of 1773 it embarked at Plymouth for North America, and disembarked at New York on the 14th of June. 1773

In the following year, 1774, the regiment was removed to Boston, where, in consequence of an anticipated outbreak by the Americans, a strong military force had been assembled under the command of General Gage. 1774

During the winter a firm determination of resistance to the acts of the mother-country became general in the American States; and on the 19th of April, 1775, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers were engaged in the first hostile collision that took place between His Majesty's troops and the colonists, in the unhappy contest which was soon to assume a most formidable character. Information having been received that the Americans were forming a considerable depôt of military stores at a place called *Concord*, about twenty miles from Boston, a detachment, consisting of the flank companies of the army, was despatched under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Smith, of the tenth regiment, for the purpose of destroying it. Though the greatest secresy had been observed in the preparations for the expedition, and the 1775

1775 detachment marched with the utmost caution, they soon perceived, by the ringing of bells, the firing of guns, &c., that the country was alarmed; and, on arriving at *Lexington*, about fifteen miles from Boston, they found a considerable body of people assembled under arms. These dispersed in confusion on the approach of the detachment; some shots were exchanged, though it does not seem certain which party was the first to fire. One soldier and several of the Americans were killed. The detachment continued its march to Concord, where a strong party of the militia of the country was found posted on an eminence at the entrance of the town; these were attacked and dispersed by the light infantry, not without further loss on both sides, while the grenadiers carried into execution the purpose of the expedition, by destroying the stores.

In the affair at Lexington, the regiment had four rank and file killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Bernard, and twenty-six rank and file, wounded.

By this time the alarm was spread far and near; and an immense multitude appeared, who opposed the return of the detachment to Boston, by keeping a galling fire on its front, flanks, and rear, under cover of the houses, hedges, and walls, which lined the road; the colonists displaying, at this early stage of the contest, that skill in this species of warfare, by which they were subsequently so much distinguished. Thus harassed, the detachment reached Lexington, where it met another detachment, consisting of the remaining eight companies of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, and the same number of the eighth regiment, which had been sent to its support under the command of Colonel Earl Percy. These formed a square, under protection of which the wearied soldiers of Colonel Smith's detachment took some rest and refreshment, the

first since leaving Boston: so much were they exhausted, 1775
that they are described in Stedman's History of the American War, as "having their tongues hanging out of their mouths like those of dogs after a chase." Both detachments soon resumed their march, still harassed by the Americans, till they arrived at Boston about sunset.

The British force amounted in all to about eighteen hundred men, of whom seventy-one were killed, one hundred and thirty-six wounded, and forty-nine missing; the loss of the Americans is stated by themselves at about sixty, of whom two-thirds were killed.

On the 11th of May, 1775, His Majesty was pleased to appoint Major-General the Honorable Sir William Howe, K. B. (from the forty-sixth regiment), to be Colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, in succession to Lieutenant-General the Honorable George Boscawen, deceased.

Boundless was the exultation of the Americans at the result of this unhappy affair,—they talked of nothing but driving the King's forces out of Boston; the militia poured in from all quarters, till twenty thousand men were assembled under commanders who had acquired some military experience as militia officers. This formidable force was even still further increased, and a line of encampment was formed thirty miles in extent, enclosing Boston in its centre. At the same time the provincial congress was busily employed, in framing regulations and providing equipments, which should give to their forces some semblance of a regular army. Meanwhile the British troops were kept blockaded in Boston, their numbers being considered inadequate to any hostile operations, though about the beginning of June reinforcements arrived from England with Major-General the Honorable Sir William Howe, which placed the army on a more re-

1775 spectable footing as to numbers than it had hitherto been.

Separated from the peninsula of Boston by the river Charles is the peninsula of Charlestown, in the centre of which rises an eminence called *Bunker's Hill*, which commands the whole of Boston. This eminence, General Gage, owing probably to the insufficiency of his force, had not occupied; but the Americans perceiving the advantages of the position, formed the hardy design of taking possession of it, which they soon executed with singular skill. As soon as it was dark, on the evening of the 16th of June, a strong body moved with great precaution across Charlestown neck, and gained unobserved the summit of the hill. Being provided with the necessary tools, they commenced throwing entrenchments, with such order and silence, that before morning they had completed a considerable line well flanked, and in many places cannon-proof. The first alarm was given by the fire of some of the men-of-war, by which the peninsula was nearly surrounded; this was soon followed by that of the batteries of Boston. About noon of the 17th of June, a detachment from Boston was landed at Charlestown, and soon after a reinforcement, which increased the whole to two thousand. These, under cover of the artillery, advanced to attack the works: the Americans, with the steadiness of veterans, kept close behind their entrenchments, and reserved their fire till the near approach of their enemy, when they poured it in with such effect, that the British ranks were literally mowed down, and the soldiers forced to recoil in several places. Rallied by their officers, and stung by the reflection of having been repulsed by an enemy whom they held in contempt, they again mounted to the assault, with such impetuosity that they forced their way over the entrench-

ments, driving the colonists from them at the point of the bayonet. The success was complete; the Americans fled with precipitation; but the reduced and exhausted state of the victors did not admit of a pursuit. 1776

The casualties of the day amounted to about one-half of the numbers engaged, being two hundred and twenty-six killed, and eight hundred and twenty-eight wounded; among the former nineteen, and among the latter seventy officers. Of this severe loss, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, eager to distinguish themselves the first time they were engaged under the immediate eye of their colonel, Major-General the Honorable Sir William Howe, appear to have borne their full proportion. No return has been preserved of the casualties of the regiment generally; but the grenadier company went into action with three officers and forty-six rank and file, and returned with five effective; the rest were all killed or wounded.* The loss of the Americans is estimated by themselves at one hundred and forty-six killed, and three hundred and four wounded.

* Journal of Captain Julian, one of the surviving veterans of the day. If it may be permitted to quote a work of fiction as an authority, it may be observed, as a confirmation of the severe loss of the regiment, that the celebrated American novelist, J. Fennimore Cooper, in his work entitled "*Lionel Lincoln*," after describing the battle of Bunker's Hill, states, "*The* WELSH FUSILIERS *had hardly men* "*enough left to saddle their goat*;" and after alluding to the keeping of a goat, with gilded horns, by the regiment, adds, "*that the corps* "*was distinguished alike for its courage and its losses.*"—For account of the custom of keeping the goat, above alluded to, vide Appendix, page 177.

Mrs. Adams, in a letter to her husband John Adams Esq. (afterwards the second President of the United States), dated 25th June, 1775, has thus alluded to the battle of Bunker's Hill:—

"But in the midst of sorrow we have abundant cause of thankful-
"ness, that so few of our brethren are numbered with the slain,
"while our enemies were cut down like grass before the scythe.
"*But one officer of all the* WELSH FUSILIERS *remains to tell his*
"*story.*"—*Letters of Mrs. Adams*, third edition, vol. i. p. 43, 44.

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1776 After the battle of Bunker's Hill nothing of importance was attempted on either side; the besieged and besiegers remained in a state of equal inactivity, till the commencement of 1776, when General Washington began to carry on his operations with more vigour, in the hope of reducing Boston before the arrival of some expected reinforcements from England. Among the besieged, the slow but sure effects of the long blockade began to show themselves; provisions were scarce, and a supply could not be procured, and the men were worn out with incessant toil. On the 2nd of March, two batteries opened their fire on the town with such effect, that Major-General Sir William Howe, who had succeeded to the command, soon became sensible that nothing now remained but to evacuate the place. Accordingly the garrison, and such of the inhabitants as adhered to the cause of the mother-country, were embarked, and conveyed to Halifax, in Nova Scotia.

The troops having recovered from the sickness and fatigue produced by the blockade of Boston, Sir William Howe sailed for Staten Island, near New York, where he landed on the 2nd of July, and was joined by considerable reinforcements from England. On the 4th of July, the American Congress issued their Declaration of Independence, abjuring their allegiance to the Crown of Great Britain, and all hope of accommodation failed. Shortly afterwards another body of troops arrived from the southern provinces, commanded by Major-General Sir Henry Clinton, and the operations of the campaign commenced on the 22nd of August, by the army crossing over to *Long Island*, where the Americans had raised a strong line of defence across a narrow neck of land, near *Brooklyn*, for the protection of New York, which it commanded. The Americans were soon compelled to retire to their works,

which the British Commander prepared to attack in form; 1776
this was no sooner perceived by the enemy than he resolved to abandon his lines, which he was sensible were incapable of resisting a regular attack. This resolution was carried into effect on the 29th of August, with extraordinary secresy and good order,—an army of nine thousand men being transported from New York, with all its cattle, artillery, and stores, without the loss of a single individual. Early in September the British crossed over to New York Island, and soon after took possession of *New York* without opposition. After a series of movements and skirmishes, which terminated with the battle of *White Plains*, on the 28th of October, the Americans were driven from all their positions in York Island, with the exception of the important fort of *Fort Washington*, which kept open the communication with the Jerseys: this place was reduced on the 16th of November, the garrison of 2500 men surrendering prisoners of war. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, having assisted in all these operations, went into winter quarters on New York Island.

On the 12th of April, 1777, the regiment embarked, 1777
under command of Major-General Tryon, and proceeded to Norwalk Bay, in Connecticut, where it landed. From thence it marched about twenty miles, to *Danbury*, and destroyed the magazines of warlike stores belonging to the enemy. The following day the troops marched to *Ridgefield*, where the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, being attacked by very superior numbers, stationed to protect very large magazines of military stores of every description, which were burnt, after the Americans had been defeated and dispersed.* The intention, for which the expedition had

* Journal of Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Saumarez, then a Lieutenant in the Twenty-third Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

1777 been undertaken, having been fully accomplished, the British troops returned to embark, when they were constantly harassed and attacked, night and day, by a very superior force of the enemy; particularly when they came in sight of their ships, they saw more than three times their own numbers, drawn up in a very advantageous position, with the intention of disputing their passage. After much manœuvring on the part of the British, they at length attacked the Americans with the bayonet, and totally defeated them, with great loss in killed and wounded. While the embarkation was proceeding, a strong party of the enemy, under General Arnold, attacked a British regiment with so much vigour as to make it give way. Upon this the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were ordered by Brigadier-General Erskine, Quarter-Master General of the army, to charge; this they did, after firing a volley so effectually, aided by the other regiment, which had rallied, that, after killing and wounding a great number of the Americans, the latter dispersed, and did not fire another shot, but allowed the rear-guard to embark without further molestation.

In this expedition the regiment had five rank and file killed; second Lieutenant Edward Price, one serjeant, and eighteen rank and file wounded.

The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS received the particular thanks of Brigadier-General Erskine, and of the other general officers, for their gallant conduct on this and every other occasion since they disembarked: after this the troops returned to New York.

Early in June the Commander-in-Chief crossed over with the army, to Staten Island, and subsequently to New Jersey. He, however, found General Washington's position at Middlebrook too strong to be attacked with any prospect of advantage, and every scheme to draw that cautious officer from his fastnesses having proved

unavailing, Major General the Honorable Sir William Howe returned to Staten Island on the 20th of June, and on the 24th the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were again in New York. 1777

Having failed in his attempt to penetrate to Philadelphia through the Jerseys, Sir William Howe now resolved to embark the army, and to arrive at that place by sailing up the Delaware. The troops destined for this service, among which were the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, embarked on the 21st of July, and sailing two days afterwards, arrived on the 30th off the Capes of the Delaware. Here, in consequence of information that the enemy had taken means that would render the navigation of the Delaware extremely dangerous, the Commander-in-Chief altered his plans, and proceeded to the Chesapeake, where he arrived about the middle of August: on the 25th, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS disembarked at Elk Ferry, in Pennsylvania. The army marched for Philadelphia, the enemy retiring, and taking up a position on the opposite side of the *Brandywine*, of which he determined to dispute the passage. The able disposition of the British general, and the valour of his troops, however, prevailed, and on the 11th of September, after a sharp contest, the Americans were driven into the woods in their rear, where they took up a second position, from which they were also dislodged and completely routed. The Americans suffered severely in this action, having three hundred killed, six hundred wounded, and four hundred taken prisoners; the British loss was one hundred killed and three hundred wounded. Captain Thomas Mecan, of the regiment, was wounded in this action. On the 20th of September another body of the Americans, under General Wayne, was completely routed by a detachment, commanded by Major-General Charles (afterwards Earl) Grey, who, in pur-

1777 suance of a system which he afterwards strongly inculcated on his army in the West Indies, commanded that not a shot should be fired, but the bayonet only should be used; the surprise was, in consequence of this precaution, most complete, and the slaughter of the enemy dreadful, at the expense to the English of one officer killed, and seven men killed and wounded.

On the 26th of September, Lieut.-General Sir William Howe advanced to Germantown, and, on the following day, Lieut.-General Earl Cornwallis took possession of *Philadelphia.* The first object of the British Commander, after the occupation of the town, was to open a communication with the fleet, by removing the obstructions which the enemy had contrived to the navigation of the Delaware; large detachments were made for this and other services, which considerably reduced the main body of the army stationed at *Germantown,* an important post about seven miles from Philadelphia. General Washington, who was apprised of this circumstance, conceived the moment favourable for an attack on *Germantown.* He accordingly moved from his encampment on the evening of the 3rd of October, and on the morning of the 4th, under cover of a dense fog, commenced a vigorous assault on the British outposts, which were driven into the village, while the Americans advanced in separate columns, with the view of at once penetrating the centre of the position, and attacking it on both flanks. Their designs were, however, frustrated by the gallantry of the fortieth regiment, which occupied a large stone house, in which it maintained itself, and checked the advance of the enemy till the whole of the British line had formed. The action was kept up with considerable obstinacy for some time, but the thickness of the fog preventing the combination of the several attacks of the enemy, he was repulsed, and, under cover

of the fog, withdrew, with all his artillery. The regiment 1777
was not engaged in any other operations during this winter, which it passed in Philadelphia, but it shared in some very severe duty at the reduction of the forts on the Delaware below the city.

In the spring of 1778, Lieut.-General the Honorable Sir 1778
William Howe returned to England, and resigned the command of the army to Lieut.-General Sir Henry Clinton, who decided on evacuating Philadelphia, and returning with the army to New York. The evacuation was effected on the 18th of June, when the army was transported, with its baggage, provisions, and stores, to the Jerseys, in the boats of the fleet. General Washington having received intelligence of the design, had despatched messengers to various points, with orders to collect all the troops that could be assembled, to harass and obstruct the British army on its march. After a variety of movements on both sides, Sir Henry Clinton arrived on the 27th of June, at a place called *Freehold*, where, judging from the appearance of more numerous parties of the enemy, that a serious attack was meditated, he encamped in a very strong position.

The night passed without any hostile movement on the part of the enemy, and in the morning Sir Henry Clinton conceiving that the vast convoy of baggage, with which he was encumbered, would be the object of attack, despatched it at an early hour, escorted by General Knyphausen's division, himself following at some distance with the rest of the army. The rear-guard, composed of the flank companies, understood Lieut.-General the Earl Cornwallis had not proceeded, for when near *Monmouth Court-House*, a vastly superior body of the Americans made its appearance under Generals Lee and the Marquis Lafayette. The British immediately commenced their dispositions for

1778 attacking them, but ere these were completed, the Americans retired to a rising ground in their rear. Sir Henry Clinton still resolved to engage, with the view of compelling the enemy to recal some parties that were advancing on the flanks of the army in pursuit of the baggage. The attack was made with such vigour, notwithstanding the exhausted condition of the men from the severe heat of the weather, that the Provincials were forced to give way, and were only saved from a total rout by the arrival of General Washington with the main body of his army. The flank companies of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS distinguished themselves on this occasion; particularly the right flank company, which received the warmest thanks of Brigadier-General Sir William Medows, who commanded the grenadier brigade; that company had one-third of its officers and men killed and wounded: among the latter was Captain Thomas Wills, who had his thigh carried away by a cannon shot, of which he died a few days after; he was assisted off the field by his subaltern, Lieutenant Saumarez. After this affair the army continued its march unmolested to Sandy Hook, from whence it was conveyed to New York on the 5th of July.

About this period the French King having taken part in the contest, a powerful fleet under the Count D'Estaing arrived on the coast of America, and appeared off the harbour of New York. The British Admiral, Lord Howe, though inferior in force, made such preparations for their reception, that the French thought it prudent to withdraw to Rhode Island, whither his Lordship resolved to go in pursuit of them. On this occasion, the fifty-second regiment was ordered to serve on board the fleet as *Marines*, but the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, desirous of paying a compliment to the brother of their Colonel, volunteered their services, which were accepted, and the regiment em-

barked on the 2nd of August. The fleet was prevented, 1778
by contrary winds, from sailing before the 6th, and on the 9th it arrived off Rhode Island, where a part of the hostile fleet was discovered at anchor, the remainder had gone up a river. Lord Howe immediately made the signal to prepare for action, and bore down to the attack; unfortunately, however, when almost within gun-shot of the enemy, the wind all at once became contrary, and the Admiral was obliged to put back. On the following day, the French fleet was observed coming out of the harbour, and forming in line of battle; Lord Howe having manœuvred unsuccessfully to gain the weather gage, at length resolved to attack the enemy without that advantage. But just as the fleets were nearing each other, so furious a tempest arose, that both were so completely dispersed, that, on the following morning, no two ships were in sight of each other. A general engagement was thus prevented, but three encounters afterwards took place between single ships of the hostile fleet, which terminated most honorably to the British arms. On the evening of the 15th, the 'Renown,' of fifty guns, fell in with the 'Languedoc,' of ninety guns, Count D'Estaing's flag-ship, and attacked her so vigorously, that the French Admiral was every moment expected to strike his colours, when, unfortunately, six of the enemy's ships hove in sight, and compelled the gallant Captain Dawson to desist. On the same evening, Captain Hotham, in the 'Preston,' also of fifty guns, engaged the 'Tonnant,' of eighty guns, with every prospect of success, when night put an end to the contest, which he was prevented from renewing in the morning by the appearance of the French fleet. On the 16th, Captain Raynor, of the 'Isis,' another fifty-gun ship, fell in with the 'Cæsar,' seventy-four, and engaged her in so spirited a manner, and with so much advantage, that she put before the

1778 wind, and sailed away, leaving the 'Isis' so disabled in her masts and rigging, as to be unable to pursue. The loss of the 'Isis' was only one man killed, and fifteen wounded, while that of the 'Cæsar' amounted to fifty, and her keel was so much damaged, that she was obliged to put into Boston harbour to refit. The regiment disembarked at New York on the 4th of September, when Admiral Lord Howe was pleased to present "his most particular thanks "to the officers and soldiers of the three companies of the "ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS for their spirited and gallant "behaviour on board the ships that had engaged the "enemy, and to the whole regiment for its conduct during "the time it served on board the fleet."

1779 On the 27th of May, 1779, the regiment embarked with a part of the army, and sailed up the river Hudson to *East Chester* and *Vereplanks*, when it assisted at the taking of *Fort Lafayette*, and other fortified places, which the Americans had constructed there and at *Stony Point*. Soon after it proceeded on another expedition, under Major-General Tryon, to Newhaven, in Connecticut, a great rendezvous for American privateers. The troops landed, and having demolished the batteries that had been erected to oppose them, destroyed several ships, and a vast quantity of naval stores. From Newhaven they proceeded to Fairfield, where they destroyed the stores, and reduced the town itself to ashes; Norfolk also shared the same fate, as did also Greenfield, a small seaport in the neighbourhood. The detachment then returned to New York, having, during an absence of not more than nine days, occasioned prodigious losses to the Americans.

On the 20th of September, the regiment embarked, with a strong detachment of the army, under Lieut.-General the Earl Cornwallis, and sailed under convoy of Admiral

Arbuthnot's fleet, with the intention of invading the whole 1779
of the French West India Islands. In consequence, however, of information received from an English frigate, that a greatly superior French fleet was within a few days' sail, the British fleet put back, and made all sail for New York, where the troops disembarked.

Towards the end of this year, the Commander-in-Chief, Lieut.-General Sir Henry Clinton, having resolved to carry the war into the southern provinces, embarked with a great part of the army, in which were the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, and sailed for Charlestown, in South Carolina. After a tedious and tempestuous voyage, during which some of the transports were lost, the troops disembarked, on the 12th of February, 1780, at North Ediston, on St. John's Island, 1780
about thirty miles from *Charlestown*. So great were the obstacles encountered by the army in its advance, that it was the 29th of March before the Commander-in-Chief, having established the necessary posts to preserve his communication with the sea, crossed the river Ashley, and established himself on Charlestown Neck. This interval had been diligently employed by the Americans in strengthening and improving the defences of the town, which were, however, too much extended for the numbers of the garrison. On the 1st of April, the British army broke ground within eight hundred yards of the works, and, on the 8th, the guns were in battery; on the 10th, Sir Henry Clinton and Admiral Arbuthnot, who had passed the outer defences of the harbour, summoned the town to surrender to His Majesty's arms, but the Governor, General Lincoln, declaring it was his determination to defend it to the last extremity, the batteries opened, and the fire of the enemy's advanced works was soon observed to slacken. General Lincoln had been expecting supplies and reinforcements; but these, by the activity of Lieut.-General

1780 the Earl Cornwallis and Lieut.-Colonel Tarleton, were intercepted. A considerable body of militia and cavalry, that was marching to the relief of the town, was totally routed by these officers, who now crossed the Cooper river, and completed the investment of the place. Meanwhile the second and third parallels had been completed, and a second summons had been answered by proposals which were deemed inadmissible.

The batteries of the third parallel now opened on the town; the works were pushed to the very edge of the ditch, and preparations for an assault were in progress, when the terrified inhabitants presented a petition to General Lincoln, praying him to accept the proffered conditions. A flag of truce was sent out, and the articles of capitulation, which had before been rejected, were agreed to on the 11th of May, a circumstance highly honorable to the humanity of Sir Henry Clinton, considering the extremities to which the place was reduced. Great quantities of ordnance and military stores were taken in *Charlestown*, and several French and American ships were captured, or destroyed.

The loss of the British during the siege was seventy-six killed, and one hundred and eighty-nine wounded. Soon after the surrender of Charlestown, Sir Henry Clinton returned to New York, leaving Lieut.-General Earl Cornwallis with four thousand men in South Carolina; to this part of the army the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were attached. As the season was unfavourable for active operations, the little army was distributed in cantonments, securing the frontiers of the province, the WELSH FUSILIERS at Camden, with some others corps under Lord Rawdon. The Americans, however, were not disposed to leave the British in quiet possession of South Carolina; and, during the month of July, various parties, moving from different points, assembled under the command of

General Gates, and entered the province. The British 1780
outposts were also called in, and united at Camden.

On the 15th of August, General Gates being at Rugeley's Mills, about twelve miles distant, Earl Cornwallis, who had arrived at *Camden* from Charlestown two days before, got his little band under arms about midnight, and marched with the intention of surprising and attacking him. At the same hour the American General moved from his ground with similar intentions, and about three o'clock in the morning of the 16th the advanced guards met. Some shots were exchanged, but the firing soon ceased, as if by mutual consent, and both armies lay on their arms till daylight. The ground, on which they had thus accidentally met, was a small sandy plain, with some straggling trees; some swampy ground on the flanks of the British narrowed the field of action, and made the numerical superiority of the enemy of less consequence.

Each army was drawn up in two lines; the right division of the first line of the English was composed of a small corps of light infanty, the TWENTY-THIRD, and thirty-third regiments, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel James Webster of the thirty-third. Observing a movement on the enemy's left, which appeared to be with the intention of making some alteration in their order, Earl Cornwallis directed Lieut.-Colonel Webster to begin the attack, which was done with great vigour, and in a few minutes the action became general along the whole front. The enemy's left, which was composed of Virginia militia, soon gave way, thus leaving that flank of their army uncovered; on this, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS and light infantry, instead of pursuing the fugitives, wheeled up to their left, and falling on the exposed flank, materially contributed to the success of the day. "Our line," re-

1780 marked Lieut.-General Earl Cornwallis, "continued to "advance with the cool intrepidity of experienced British "soldiers, keeping up a fire, or making use of the bayonet, "as opportunities offered." After an obstinate resistance of three-quarters of an hour, the Americans were thrown into complete disorder, and forced to fly from the field in the utmost confusion. The cavalry pursued, and made about one thousand prisoners.

The army by which this victory was achieved did not exceed two thousand men, of whom not more than fifteen hundred were British or regulars, the remainder were militia or refugees; the American force was computed at six thousand, of whom eight or nine hundred were killed or wounded; the loss of the British was two hundred and thirteen. The TWENTY-THIRD regiment had six rank and file killed; Captain James Drury, and seventeen rank and file wounded. Seven pieces of artillery, all the enemy had, one hundred and fifty waggons, laden with ammunition, provisions, &c., and several stands of colours, fell into the hands of the victors.

Earl Cornwallis having awaited at Camden the arrival of ome necessary supplies from Charlestown, set out on the 8th of September on an expedition, which he had long meditated, for the reduction of the province of North Carolina. Towards the end of the month his Lordship removed to Charlotte, where he halted and established a post. As the army depended entirely for subsistence on the country through which it marched, several mills in the neighbourhood of Charlotte were occupied by detachments in order to be preserved for the purpose of grinding corn for the troops. At one of these (Polk's Mill) a small detachment was posted, commanded by Lieutenant Guyon, of the regiment, a very young man. The Americans made an attack upon the mill with a very superior force, but were

repulsed. Lieutenant Guyon's conduct was highly ap- 1780
plauded.*

Here Earl Cornwallis received the intelligence of the defeat and destruction of the detachment of Major Ferguson; and as this disaster left the western frontiers of South Carolina exposed to the incursions of the enemy, his Lordship found himself under the necessity of returning to protect the loyal inhabitants of that province. On this march the army was exposed to the greatest privations, being frequently two days at a time without sustenance. "For five days they were supported on Indian "corn, which was collected as it stood in the fields,—five "ears was the allowance for two soldiers for twenty-four "hours."† At this period, and for several months after, the army was without tents, bivouacking in the woods, under torrents of rain, while at every step the soldier sunk over the shoes in mud.

On the 29th of October, the troops arrived at Wynesborough, a convenient station for supporting two of the most important posts, Camden and Ninety-six, where Earl Cornwallis halted to await the junction of reinforcements from New York, with whose assistance his Lordship would be able to resume his operations in North Carolina.

On the 17th of January, 1781, the British cause in 1781
North America suffered a severe blow in the defeat of a detachment under Lieut.-Colonel Tarleton, at *Cowpens*. Earl Cornwallis, hoping to retrieve in some measure the disaster, by recovering the numerous prisoners made by the enemy on this unfortunate occasion, commenced the most vigorous pursuit of General Morgan, by whom the blow had been struck. To expedite the movements of the army, orders were issued for the destruction of

* Stedman's History of the American War, vol. ii., p. 233.
† Ibid., vol. ii., p. 224. The author was Commissary to the Army.

1781 all superfluous baggage; these were obeyed with the most rigid exactness: the soldiers, emulating the example of their Commander, destroyed even the spirits without a murmur. By extraordinary exertions the army reached the Fords of Catawba on the 29th of January, only two hours after the passage of General Morgan, having on this march suffered even greater hardships than on that from Charlotte to Wynesborough. "The "troops had to ford one or more rivers or creeks daily or "nightly, and had to march generally all night, without "any wine or spirits to drink, having destroyed all they "had, and that without having ever been recompensed for "so doing."

A heavy fall of rain during the night rendered the Catawba impassable for the next two days, and enabled General Morgan to disencumber himself of his prisoners, whom he despatched under an escort of militia, by a different route from that which he proposed to follow himself. On the 1st of February, the river having so far subsided as to be fordable, Earl Cornwallis made his dispositions for crossing during the night. A portion of his small force was detached to make a feint at a public ford called Beakies, while his Lordship marched with the remainder to a private one, called M'Gowans. The fires on the opposite side soon made it evident that this ford had not escaped the vigilance of the enemy; it was, nevertheless, determined to proceed with the enterprise, and the column entered the river, which was five hundred yards wide, and reached to the men's middles. The head of the column had not got half way over when the enemy's piquets were alarmed, and commenced firing. "The "current was so strong," says Sir Thomas Saumarez, "that "the officers and men were obliged to fasten to each other, "otherwise they must have been carried down the river and

"perished. The bottom was rocky and uneven, and the 1781
"enemy firing from the opposite bank all the time the
"troops were crossing. Notwithstanding all these diffi-
"culties, they made good their landing, and immediately
"attacked and dispersed the Americans. General David-
"son was killed, and several of the enemy bayoneted."
Captain James, of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, was wounded.

The enemy now fled with a precipitation that again baffled the most active pursuit, and crossed the Yadkin, where the British were again detained by a sudden rising of the river. Earl Cornwallis now endeavoured, by a circuitous route, to cut off the enemy's communication with Virginia; but in this design his Lordship was also frustrated by the excessive rains and the swollen state of the rivers.

The Americans were, however, driven from North Carolina, and Earl Cornwallis retired to Hillsborough, in that province, where he hoisted the Royal Standard, and invited the people to join him; but provisions becoming scarce in the neighbourhood, his Lordship was under the necessity of making a retrograde movement, and the enemy re-entered the province. Earl Cornwallis advanced to meet them, but General Green, who now commanded the American army, declined a battle, till, being joined by strong reinforcements, he at length made a stand at *Guildford Court-House*. The British General seeing, with much satisfaction, that the long-wished-for opportunity of bringing his antagonist into action had arrived, put his little army in motion early on the morning of the 15th of March.

"About one o'clock," says Sir Thomas Saumarez, "the action commenced. THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS "had to attack the enemy in front, under every disad-

1781 "vantage, having to march over a field lately ploughed, "which was wet and muddy from the rains which had "recently fallen. The enemy, greatly superior in numbers, "were most advantageously posted on a rising ground, and "behind rails. The regiment marched to the attack under "a most galling and destructive fire, which it could only "return by an occasional volley. No troops could behave "better than the regiment and the little army did at this "period, as they never returned the enemy's fire but by "word of command, and marched on with the most un- "daunted courage. When at length they got within a "few yards of the Americans' first line, they gave a volley, "and charged with such impetuosity, as to cause them to "retreat, which they did to the right and left flanks, leaving "the front of the British troops exposed to the fire of a "second line of the enemy, which was formed behind "brushwood. Not being able to attack in front, the FUSI- "LIERS were obliged to take ground to their left to get "clear of the brushwood. They then attacked the enemy "with the bayonet in so cool and deliberate a manner, as "to throw the Americans into the greatest confusion, and "disperse them. After this the ROYAL WELSH attacked and "captured two brass six-pounders, having assisted in "the attack and defeat of the third line and reserve of "the Americans. Such men of the FUSILIERS and seventy- "first as had strength remaining were ordered to pursue "the dispersed enemy. This they did in so persevering a "manner, that they killed or wounded as many as they "could overtake, until, being completely exhausted, they "were obliged to halt, after which they returned as they "could to rejoin the army at Guildford Court-House."

"This action," continues Sir Thomas Saumarez, "was "unquestionably the hardest, and best-contested, fought "during the American war. The ROYAL WELSH FUSI-

" LIERS had about one-third of the officers and soldiers 1781
" killed or wounded." Earl Cornwallis, in his official account of the battle, thus characterises his troops: "The " conduct and actions of the officers and soldiers that com- " pose this little army, will do more justice to their minds " than I can by words. Their persevering intrepidity in " action, their invincible patience under the hardships and " fatigues of a march of above six hundred miles, in which " they have forded several large rivers, and numberless " creeks, many of which would be considered large rivers " in any other country in the world, without tents or " covering from the climate, and often without provisions, " will sufficiently manifest their ardent zeal for the honor " and interests of their Sovereign and their country."

The victory at Guildford was gained by one thousand four hundred and forty-seven men over an army computed at seven thousand; the loss of the victors was ninety-three killed, and four hundred and thirteen wounded, a large deduction from so small a force. Unfortunately too, many of the wounded perished on the night that succeeded the action, as the great extent of ground on which it was fought, rendered it impossible to collect them all under shelter from the torrents of rain which continued to fall.

This brilliant and dearly-purchased success was followed by no beneficial results; the army could not be subsisted in that part of the country, and Earl Cornwallis was under the necessity of retiring to Wilmington. General Green now penetrated into South Carolina, and caused so much apprehension for the detached posts in that province, that Earl Cornwallis, with the view of drawing him off, marched into Virginia. At Petersburgh his lordship was joined by a detachment from New York under General Arnold. From Petersburgh the army marched to Richmond and Williamsburgh, destroying everywhere vast quantities of

1781 tobacco and other produce, in which the wealth of the colonists consisted. At this period seventy men of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, under the command of Captain Forbes Champagné, were mounted, and detached with Colonel Tarleton to surprise the General Assembly of the State of Virginia, which was sitting at Charlotteville. This novel service they performed very efficiently, for they charged through a river into the town, took prisoners seven members of the Assembly, and destroyed one thousand stand of arms, and a great quantity of gunpowder, tobacco, &c.

While at Williamsburgh, Earl Cornwallis received instructions from Lieut.-General Sir Henry Clinton to detach a considerable portion of his force to New York, where Sir Henry expected to be attacked by General Washington. Earl Cornwallis, conceiving that he should not be able to maintain himself at Williamsburgh with the remainder of his army, resolved to march the whole to Portsmouth, where the detachment was to embark for New York. For this purpose it was necessary to pass the river James, and while the army was thus engaged in doing so, on the 6th of July, the Marquis de la Fayette, who served as a volunteer in the American army, came up, expecting to cut off the rear-guard after the main body should have crossed. Earl Cornwallis, aware of his intention, made his dispositions such, that the Marquis supposing that there was only a small body opposed to him, advanced briskly, driving in the piquets, which had been instructed to draw him on. The whole line was, however, under arms, and gave the enemy so warm a reception, that night alone saved them from total destruction; as it was they lost three hundred in killed, wounded, and prisoners.

It soon became evident that the preparations of General Washington, which had caused so much apprehension for New York, were in reality directed against the army in

Virginia. Earl Cornwallis's situation was indeed becoming 1781
most hazardous; General Washington, with eight thousand American troops, and the Count de Rochambeau, with an equal number of French, were rapidly approaching to surround him by land, while the French fleet was preparing to blockade him by sea. His Lordship selected York Town, at the mouth of the river York, as the best post for at once securing his own troops, and the ships by which he was attended. The army arrived at *York Town* in the month of August, and immediately commenced fortifying the place. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were directed to construct a redoubt on the right flank, and in advance, having a ravine between it and the town, and were informed by Earl Cornwallis, that this post was to be entrusted to them to defend.

On the 28th of September, the combined French and American army made its appearance, and Earl Cornwallis having the same evening received assurance of speedy succour from Sir Henry Clinton, withdrew his troops from the outer works, which were, on the following day, occupied by the enemy, and the place completely invested. On the 6th of October the enemy opened the first parallel, and on the 9th, their batteries commenced firing on the British left; other batteries fired at the same time against a redoubt, advanced over the creek upon the British right, and defended by one hundred and twenty men of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment and marines, who maintained that post with uncommon gallantry;* soon after three thousand French grenadiers, all volunteers, made a vigorous attempt to storm the right advanced redoubt, and were repulsed by only one hundred and thirty officers and soldiers of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, and forty

* Lord Cornwallis's despatch.

1781 marines; two other attempts were also made by the French to storm the redoubt, which were also unsuccessful.*

On the night of the 14th October the enemy established the second parallel, and as it was evident that the half-ruined works of the town could not stand many hours against its fire, a sortie was determined on. This was made on the morning of the 16th, by a party of three hundred and fifty men, who gallantly forced their way into two of the batteries that were in the greatest state of forwardness, spiked the guns, and killed about one hundred of the enemy. This success was, however, of little avail, the guns having been hastily and imperfectly spiked, were soon restored, and before evening were fit for service. Not a gun could be shown on the works of the town, and the shells were nearly all expended; no alternative, therefore, remained, but to surrender, or attempt to draw off the garrison by the Gloucester side of the river, on which there was only a small French force, which could be easily overpowered. The latter alternative was decided on, and some large boats were, on other pretences, ordered to be in readiness at night. In these a detachment of the army, including a part of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, embarked, some reached the opposite side, but at this critical moment, the weather, from being calm and moderate, changed to a most violent storm of wind and rain, and drove all the boats, some with troops on board, down the river. Fortunately, they were all enabled to return in the course of the forenoon, but the design of drawing off the garrison was completely frustrated. Meanwhile the enemy's batteries had opened at daybreak; the defences were crumbling into ruins, and were already assailable in more than one point. Under these circumstances, Earl

* Sir Thomas Saumarez.

Cornwallis, unwilling to expose his men to the carnage of 1781
an assault, which could not fail of success, made proposals for a capitulation on the 17th. The terms were adjusted on the following day, and on the 19th the articles were signed; and so terminated the services of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS in the American war, though not ingloriously. Earl Cornwallis, in his official account of the siege, observed, "The detachmentof the TWENTY-THIRD "regiment and marines, in the redoubt of the right, "commanded by Captain Althorpe (TWENTY-THIRD), and "the subsequent detachments commanded by Lieutenant-"Colonel Johnstone, deserve particular commendation." Sir Thomas Saumarez adds, "for the gallant defence made "by the troops which defended the right redoubt, they "received the particular thanks of Earl Cornwallis, and "also the most flattering testimonies of approbation from the "general officers of the army, for their persevering and in-"trepid conduct during the siege, and on all former occa-"sions." Even the French general officers, after the termination of the siege, gave the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS their unqualified approbation and praise, for their intrepidity and firmness in repulsing the three attacks made by such vastly superior numbers on the redoubt, and could not easily believe that so few men had defended it.

The combined army, including militia, amounted to twenty thousand men, while the garrison, on the day previous to the surrender, mustered five thousand nine hundred and fifty rank and file, of whom, however, only four thousand and seventeen were reported fit for duty. Lieutenants Mair and Guyon, of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, were killed during the siege.

By the terms of the capitulation, the garrison surrendered prisoners of war, but the officers were permitted to return to Europe on parole, and to retain their private property;

1781 the colours of the regiment were thus saved, by Captain Peter and another officer wrapping them round their bodies.†

On the 29th of October, Captain Saumarez, who was appointed to attend the regiment during its captivity, marched from York Town with half the garrison, and on the 15th of November arrived at Winchester, in the back settlements of Virginia, where the soldiers were confined in barracks, surrounded by a stockade.

1782 On the 12th of January, 1782, the regiment marched from Winchester, through the state of Maryland to Lancaster in Pennsylvania, a long and severe march, during which several of the soldiers were frost-bitten. Here, on the 2nd of June, 1782, Captain Saumarez was one of the thirreen British captains who were compelled to draw lots for their lives.

At this period King George III., having been induced to concede the Independence of the United States, hostilities ceased, and on the 30th of November, 1782, the preliminary Articles of Peace were signed at Paris by the commissioners of the King of Great Britain, and those of the American Congress.

1783 The preliminaries of the treaties between England, France, and Spain, were signed at Versailles on the 20th of January, 1783. St. Lucia was restored to France; also the settlements on the river Senegal; and the city of Pondicherry in the East Indies. France relinquished all her West India conquests, with the exception of Tobago. Spain retained Minorca (which she had captured in the previous year), and also West Florida; and East Florida was ceded in exchange for the restitution of the Bahamas to Great Britain.

* The late Lieutenant-General Peter. † Captain Julian's Journal.

In May, 1783, the regiment quitted Lancaster, and 1783
joined the British army in Staten Island, and in January,
1784, embarked for England, and was stationed in the 1784
United Kingdom during the ten following years.

Major-General Richard Grenville was appointed by 1786
His Majesty King George III. to be colonel of the
TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS on the 21st
of April, 1786, in succession to Lieut.-General the
Honorable Sir William Howe, who was removed to the
colonelcy of the Nineteenth (late Twenty-third) Light
Dragoons.

In the year 1789, the regiment was employed on the 1789
King's duty at Windsor, and on His Majesty visiting
that place on the 17th of March, upon his recovery, the
regiment was posted on the batteries of the Round
Tower, and fired thrice a *feu-de-joie*.

The affairs of France, which had been for some time
in an unsatisfactory state, approached a crisis, and in
this year was commenced the Revolution in that country,
which ultimately affected all the dynasties of Europe, and
involved Great Britain in a war of upwards of twenty
years' duration.

On the 21st of January, 1793, Louis XVI. was de- 1793
capitated, and the progress of democracy menaced Europe
with universal anarchy. On the 1st of February, the
National Convention of France declared war against Great
Britain and Holland, and the British Government caused
a large army to be sent, under the command of the Duke of
York, to join the Austrian and Prussian allies; several en-
gagements occurred, and the French gained possession of the
Austrian Netherlands. Holland opened her principal towns
to the enemy, and they were garrisoned by French troops.

Republican principles also became prevalent in the
French West India Islands, and the settlers of St.

1793 Domingo solicited protection from the British Government against the inhabitants of colour, whose violence threatened to involve the colony in all the horrors attendant on democratical outrages.

1794 In the year 1794, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment embarked for St. Domingo, where it assisted at the taking of *Port-au-Prince*, but suffered so severely from the climate, that the regiment returned to England a perfect
1796 skeleton in 1796, and was stationed at Chatham.

1798 In 1798 the regiment formed part of a force, sent under the command of Major-General Coote, to destroy sluices and works in the canal of Ostend. Two companies only landed on this service; they were made prisoners of war, in common with the rest of the troops, and marched to Lisle; they were soon after, however, exchanged, and joined the head-quarters of the regiment in Guernsey.

1799 In August, 1799, the regiment embarked for Holland, with the army under Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, sailed from the Downs on the 13th of that month, and after a tedious and tempestuous voyage arrived in Texel Roads on the 22nd. Preparations for a landing were immediately commenced, but it coming on to blow so hard on-shore, the fleet was forced to put to sea again: and the gale continuing unabated for the two following days, it was not till the 26th that it finally came to anchor.

On the morning of the 27th, the troops got into the boats and launches of the fleet to disembark. The reserve, composed of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS and fifty-fifth, commanded by Colonel M'Donald of the latter regiment, were the first to reach the shore. They had scarcely formed, and begun to move forward, when they got into action with a considerable body of Dutch infantry, cavalry, and artillery, commanded by General Daendels. "The ardour and glorious intrepidity displayed by the

"troops soon drove the enemy from the nearest sand-hills;" 1799
but the contest continued from five o'clock in the morning till three in the afternoon, when the enemy, completely worn out, were compelled to retire. The loss of the British fell chiefly on the reserve, which were the corps principally engaged. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS had eighteen rank and file killed, and Captains Bury, Ellis, and the Honorable Godfrey M'Donald, five serjeants, and sixty-nine rank and file wounded.

For some days the troops remained in the position they had won on the sand-hills, suffering severely from the weather, having no other shelter than trenches, which they dug for themselves in the sand. On the 1st of September they advanced from this uncomfortable situation, and established themselves on the *Zype Dyke*, extending across the peninsula of the Helder, from the Atlantic to the Zuyder Zee. Early in the morning of the 10th of September, the enemy advanced in three columns to attack the position, but were repulsed at every point: the reserve quickened the retreat of the French.

In a few days His Royal Highness the Duke of York arrived and assumed the command of the army, and as considerable reinforcements of English and Russians arrived about the same time, offensive operations commenced. On the 19th of September the Allied army marched in four columns to attack the posts of the enemy. All conducted themselves with great bravery, and the efforts of three of the columns were crowned with complete success. The right column, however, composed of Russians, was unfortunately surrounded in the village of Bergen, and ultimately repulsed with considerable loss. In consequence of this misfortune, the whole of the troops were recalled to the position from which they had marched in the morning. The reserve had marched on the evening

1799 preceding the battle to turn the extreme right of the enemy. There was no opposition in that quarter, but the column also resumed its former position.

The state of the weather prevented further active operations during the remainder of the month of September; but the interval was usefully employed in preparations for a renewal of the attack on the enemy: this was made on the 2nd of October, on which was gained the hard-fought battle, generally known as that of *Alkmaar*. The action commenced by the reserve, which formed the advance guard of the right column of the army, under Sir Ralph Abercromby, attacking and carrying a redoubt in front of the village of Campe, and driving the enemy from that village and the heights above it. The soldiers then advanced along the sand-hills, inclining to their left, took the Slaper Dyke in reverse, and cleared the road to Groete, and the heights above it, for the Russian column which marched by the Slaper Dyke. Having cleared the ground in front of the Russians, the reserve inclined considerably to the right, to connect itself with the right column (which had marched by the sea-shore), still warmly engaged with the enemy, who were in considerable force on the sand-hills. Meanwhile Lieut. General Sir Ralph Abercromby had been for several hours warmly engaged with a superior body of the French, which occupied *Egmont-op-Zee*, and the hills in front of it. The arrival of the reserve enabled him to advance and take post on the sand-hills, on which the troops lay on their arms that night, and on the following morning occupied Egmont-op-Zee. In this battle the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS had seven rank and file killed, and Lieutenants M'Lean and Keith, one serjeant, three drummers, and forty-nine rank and file wounded.

After the action, the enemy took up a strong position between Boever Wyck and Wyck-op-Zee, from which His

Royal Highness determined to drive him before he should 1799
have time to strengthen it, or to receive reinforcements.

In pursuance of this determination, and preparatory to a general movement, the advanced posts were ordered to be pushed forward on the 6th of October. This was effected in general with little opposition; but the Russians, while attempting to take posesssion of a height in their front, were attacked by a strong party of the enemy. Sir Ralph Abercromby moved up with the reserve to support them, and the enemy advancing with his whole force, the action soon became general along a great part of the line, and was maintained with great obstinacy till a late hour in the night, when the enemy withdrew from the field. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS had six rank and file killed, and one serjeant and thirty-three rank and file wounded.

Winter was now setting in with such rigour, that it was evident nothing further could be effected during that season; a retrograde movement was therefore resolved on. About seven o'clock in the evening of the 7th of October, the troops were suddenly ordered to fall in, and by ten the retreat had commenced. The night being extremely dark and stormy, and the greatest precautions having been taken to elude the vigilance of the enemy, there was no pursuit, and the army on the 9th resumed its former position on the Zype Dyke unmolested.

On the 14th, His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief made proposals to the French General Brune for withdrawing the British and Russian troops from Holland, and on the 18th, articles to that effect were agreed on.

In pursuance of the convention, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS marched to the Helder, and on the 29th of October embarked on some Dutch schuytz, to be conveyed to some line-of-battle ships about fifteen miles off. The wind dying away they were unable to proceed, and were

1799 ordered on board some Dutch frigates, when it was the fate of Lieutenants Hill, Hanson, Viscer, Maclean, and Hoggard, with the grenadier and two other companies, amounting to two hundred and sixty-two men, and twenty-five women and children, to embark in the 'Valk.' This ship was prevented from sailing at the same time with those which conveyed the rest of the regiment, but she got out with the next tide. On the following evening they were, by reckoning, within thirty miles of Yarmouth, but would not come nearer the shore during the night. Next morning the wind was contrary, and soon increasing to a storm, drove the 'Valk' towards the coast of Norway. She now beat about for several days, till all idea of her position was lost. On the morning of the 10th of November the ship struck on a sand-bank, as was afterwards ascertained, within six miles of the Dutch coast, from which the captain had conceived he was many leagues distant, supposing himself to be at least equally near to that of England; the crew, of whom, indeed, scarcely twenty had ever been at sea before, abandoned themselves to despair, and trusted more to their prayers than to their exertions.

The spirit of the Englishmen was not, however, dismayed by their appalling situation. Lieutenant Hoggard, who had some little knowledge of nautical affairs, took some of the soldiers down to the pumps, and Lieutenant Hill, having failed in an attempt to break open the powder-magazine, fired several rounds from a soldier's musket; the ship guns had all been drawn, and the gunner could not be found. The ship now beat over the bank and drifted among some breakers, the mainmast went overboard, severing the long-boat in two in its fall; the mizen and foremasts soon followed, carrying with them numbers of people who had crowded into the rigging. Lieutenant

Hill now hearing the ship going to pieces, took his station 1799
on the forecastle, where he lay down, and from whence he witnessed the unhappy fate of most of his companions, the afterpart of the ship having soon broken away. The forecastle seemed to be fast bedded in the sand, but it soon fell over, when Lieutenant Hill quitted it, and after many fruitless and fatiguing efforts, succeeded in fastening himself with his braces to a fragment of the wreck, on which he at length reached the shore, when he found, that of four hundred and forty-six souls which had sailed in the 'Valk,' only twenty-five survived,—himself, nineteen men of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, and five Dutch sailors.

The land on which they were cast proved to be the island of Ameland, on the coast of Holland. The inhabitants had hoisted the colours of the House of Orange, and cut off all communication with the main land; they received the survivors in the kindest manner, and performed the last offices to those who were washed ashore, with as much decency as their poverty would permit.

Having fulfilled these melancholy duties, Lieutenant Hill hired a fishing-boat, in which he and his companions were conveyed to the Helder, from whence they returned to England in the 'Success' frigate.

The regiment was now reduced by shipwreck and the casualties of the campaign, from one thousand to about four hundred men; drafts were received from the Irish militia, and a few recruits were raised in England, but the supplies were far from placing the regiment on its former establishment.

In June, 1800, the regiment embarked at Plymouth in three frigates, and joined the channel fleet under Admiral 1800
Earl St. Vincent, disembarked on the Isle de Houat on the coast of France, re-embarked and joined the army under Lieutenant-General Sir James Pulteney, in the un-

1800 successful attempts on Ferrol and Vigo in August; it thence proceeded to Cadiz Bay, and joined the army assembled there under the command of Lieut.-General Sir Ralph Abercromby. The troops being prevented from landing in consequence of an epidemic fever raging in the city, it was resolved to employ them in an expedition to Egypt. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS sailed for Malta, where they landed early in December, for the purpose of refreshing the men, and cleaning the ships; from Malta they proceeded to the general rendezvous, Marmorice Bay, in Asia Minor, where they again landed and encamped. The expedition finally sailed from Marmorice
1801 Bay on the 23rd of February, 1801, and on the 2nd of March, anchored in *Aboukir Bay*. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS formed part of the reserve, with the flank companies of the fortieth regiment, the twenty-eighth, forty-second, and fifty-eighth regiments, the Corsican rangers, and detachments of the eleventh dragoons, and of Hompesch's regiment, commanded by Major-General, afterwards Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore.

The state of the weather, and the surf on the shore, prevented any attempt to land until the 8th of March. At two o'clock on that morning, the reserve, the guards, and the first brigade, amounting in all to about five thousand five hundred men, commenced getting into the boats, but owing to the great extent of the anchorage, the assembling and arranging of these at the place of rendezvous were not completed till nine. When the signal was made to advance, all sprang forward at the same instant: the French, to the number of two thousand, drawn up at the summit of the sand-hills, in part sixty feet high, and apparently inaccessible, looking down in amazement at the hardihood of the attempt When they could no longer doubt of the seriousness of the intention to land, they

opened such a tremendous fire from their artillery, and 1801
as the troops approached, from their small arms, that the surface of the water was broken into foam, and it seemed as if nothing could live in it. This only increased the ardour of the rowers, who pressed on and forced the boats to the beach. "The reserve jumped on shore and formed "as they advanced; the TWENTY-THIRD and fortieth "rushed up the heights with almost preternatural energy, "never firing a shot, but charging with the bayonet the "two battalions which crowned them, breaking and pur- "suing them till they carried the two Mole Hills in the "rear, which commanded the plain to the left, taking at the "same time three pieces of cannon."* The guards and the first brigade were no less successful, and the British were left in full possession of the heights, and eight pieces of cannon.

The loss of the regiment was six rank and file killed, and Captains Ellis, Lloyd, and Pearson, one serjeant, and thirty-seven rank and file, wounded.

The rest of the army disembarked during the day, and the whole occupied a position about three miles in advance, till the 12th of March, when it again moved forward and came in sight of the enemy, who was strongly posted with his right to the canal of *Alexandria*, and his left to the sea. On the morning of the 13th, the army marched in two columns against the right of the enemy's position, but had not proceeded far, when the French, descending from the heights, attacked the leading brigades of both columns. These quickly formed line, repulsed the enemy, and continuing to advance in the same formation for three miles, finally compelled him to take refuge under the fortified heights of Alexandria.

* Sir Robert Wilson's History of the Expedition.

1801 The reserve, which had covered the right flank during these operations, was now brought forward, while the second line marched to the left to turn the enemy on both flanks. The Commander-in-Chief, however, on reconnoitring the position, judged it prudent to withdraw the troops rather than expose them to the certainty of considerable loss, when the extent of the advantage to be gained could not be ascertained: they had already, indeed, suffered severely during the reconnoisance.

The army remained unmolested in the position to which it had retired within about four miles from *Alexandria*, till the morning of the 21st. The reserve was posted on an eminence on the extreme right, within a few yards of the sea, and among the ruins of an ancient palace, the work of the Romans. About an hour before daybreak on the morning of the 21st of March, the French, to the number of twelve thousand, issued from their works and advanced to the attack. The action commenced by a feint on the British left, but it soon became evident that the greatest efforts were directed against the right. The attack on this point was begun by the infantry, sustained by a strong body of cavalry: the contest was unusually obstinate; the enemy was twice repulsed, and their cavalry were repeatedly mixed with the British infantry. They at length retired, leaving a prodigious number of dead and wounded on the field. "The reserve, "against whom the principal attack of the enemy was "directed, conducted themselves with unexampled spirit: "they resisted the impetuosity of the French infantry, and "repulsed several charges of cavalry."* "To Major-"General Moore, Brigadier-General Oakes, and the "reserve, no acknowledgments are sufficient."†

* Major-General Hutchinson's despatch. † General Order.

The regiment had five rank and file killed; second 1801
Lieutenant Samuel Cooke, two serjeants, and twelve rank and file wounded.

In this battle the nation sustained the loss of the gallant Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was wounded early in the action, and died on the 28th of March. Major-General Hutchinson, on whom the command devolved, marched against Cairo with the main body of the army. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS remained with Major-General Coote before *Alexandria*, and assisted in the operations which terminated in the capitulation of that place on the 2nd of September. In November they embarked for Gibraltar. "The conduct of the troops of every description," says Major-General Hutchinson, in his despatch of the 5th of September, "has been exemplary in the highest degree: "there has been much to applaud and nothing to repre- "hend. Their order and regularity in the camp have "been as conspicuous as their courage in the field."

For their conduct on this service the troops received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and His Majesty was graciously pleased to permit each regiment to bear on its colours and appointments, the SPHINX, with the word "EGYPT." Each officer was presented with a gold medal by the Grand Seignior.*

On the 27th of March, 1802, a definitive treaty of 1802
peace was signed at Amiens between the French Republic, Spain, and the Batavian Republic, on the one part, and Great Britain on the other. The principal features of the treaty were, that Great Britain restored all her conquests during the war, excepting Trinidad and Ceylon, which were ceded to her, the former by Spain, and the

* *Vide* List of Regiments employed in Egypt, and General Order, dated Horse Guards, 16th of May 1801, inserted in pages 178, etc. of the Appendix.

1802 latter by the Batavian Republic. Portugal was maintained in its integrity, excepting that some of its possessions in Guiana were ceded to France. The territories of the Ottoman Porte were likewise maintained in their integrity. The Ionian Republic was recognised, and Malta was to be restored to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. The French agreed to evacuate the Neapolitan and Roman States, and Great Britain all the ports that she held in the Adriatic and the Mediterranean.

1803 The conduct of Napoleon Bonaparte, at this period First Consul of France, occasioned hostilities to be resumed in 1803, when the British army was augmented, and preparations were made to repel a threatened invasion of the French.

In August, 1803, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment returned to England from Gibraltar, and was quartered in the southern counties of Great Britain for the two following years.

1804 Preparations to repel the menaced French invasion were continued in 1804, and a *second battalion* was added to the regiment. It was formed of men raised in Wales for limited service under the Additional Force Act, passed on the 29th of July, 1804, and placed on the establishment of the army from the 25th of December following.

The second battalion was embodied at Chester, where it remained until it was completed, and rendered fit for service.

1805 The first battalion of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment embarked at Ramsgate in October, 1805, on an expedition under the command of Lieutenant-General Don: it disembarked at Cuxhaven early in November, and after a severe and fatiguing march was cantoned on the banks of the Weser, about a day's march from Bremen. About two months afterwards, the army, now commanded

by Lieut.-General Lord Cathcart, occupied Bremen, where 1805
it remained in anxious expectation of being called upon to partake in more active scenes, till the battle of Austerlitz so completely changed the aspect of affairs in Europe, that the British troops were recalled to England in February, 1806. 1806

The next service in which the first battalion was em- 1807
ployed, was the expedition to Copenhagen under Lieut.-General Lord Cathcart.

The first battalion of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, which with the fourth regiment formed Major-General Grosvenor's brigade, embarked at Harwich on the 25th of July, 1807, sailed on the 30th, and on the 16th of August, landed without opposition, on the island of Zealand, about twelve miles from Copenhagen. On their advance toward the capital on the following day some skirmishing took place with the advance-guard, commanded by Major Pearson, in which the battalion lost five or six men.

On the 18th of August, the stores and artillery were disembarked, and the troops soon commenced erecting batteries, and making other necessary preparations for a bombardment. During the progress of these, the piquets had frequent encounters with the enemy, in which the first battalion had a few men killed and wounded; but the greatest annoyance was from the fire of the Danish gun-boats. The bombardment commenced on the evening of the 2nd of September, with such effect, that the town was soon observed to be on fire in several places. The firing continued on both sides till the morning of the 6th, when negotiations were opened, and on the 7th articles of capitulation were signed. Lieutenant Jennings and two men were killed on the 4th by a six-pound shot, which wounded two other men of the battalion, and killed two of the fourth, or King's Own regiment.

1807 From the signing of the capitulation, the first battalion was quartered in the suburbs of Copenhagen till the 18th of October, when it embarked for England in the *Brunswick*, *Surveillante*, and *Heir Apparent Frederick*, one of the Danish prizes. On the 6th of November the battalion landed at Deal, after a stormy voyage, during which the *Heir Apparent* was more than once in considerable danger. From Deal it marched to Colchester, from whence it soon moved to Portsmouth.

On the 23rd of November, 1807, the second battalion embarked at Portsmouth for Ireland.

1808 In February, 1808, the first battalion embarked in transports, and proceeded to Halifax in Nova Scotia, where it arrived on the 16th of April. From Halifax one company was detached to Windsor, the remainder were ordered up the Bay of Fundy, the head-quarters, with three companies, to Annapolis Royal, and the rest to St. John's, New Brunswick.

In the summer of 1808, the second battalion was encamped on the Curragh of Kildare, where a considerable body of troops was assembled to be exercised by Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird.

In the autumn of 1808, the second battalion formed part of the force which proceeded with Sir David Baird to join Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore's army in Spain. It subsequently accompanied the former General in his march to Sahagun, and shared in all the hardships of the disastrous retreat which followed, being one of the regiments of General Frazer's division, which unfortunately advanced a few days' march on the road from Liego to Vigo, in consequence of the misconduct of the orderly dragoon who carried the despatch directing the retreat to be made on Corunna.

In the battle at *Corunna* on the 16th of January, 1809,

the second battalion was in Major-General Beresford's 1808
brigade, which was in reserve, and which formed the rear-guard when the army embarked on the 17th, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS being the *last battalion* to quit the Spanish shore.

For the services in this campaign, the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were permitted to bear the word "CORUNNA" on the regimental colour and appointments, and Lieutenant-Colonel Wyatt received the honorary distinction of a medal.*

The second battalion returned with the army to England, and in the summer of the same year again embarked to join the expedition to the island of *Walcheren*, under General the Earl of Chatham. On this service, the battalion suffered so severely from the pestilential climate of the island, that it returned to England almost a skeleton. It was never afterwards employed on foreign service, and, indeed, never attained to such a degree of efficiency as to be equal to repair the casualties of the first battalion during the Peninsular War.

The first battalion of the TWENTY-THIRD remained in Nova Scotia until December, 1808, when it was selected to proceed with the seventh Royal Fusiliers and other regiments, under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, to the West Indies, to take part in an expedition against the French Island of *Martinique*.

The armament assembled at Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, 1809
under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir George Beckwith, and sailed for *Martinique* on the 28th of January, 1809. On the following day, the troops being separated into two divisions, in order to attack on different

* *Vide* General Orders, dated 18th January and 1st February 1809; also List of Regiments employed under Lieut.-General Sir John Moore at Corunna, inserted in pages 182, etc. of the Appendix.

1809 points, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS landed in the *Cul-de-Sac Robert*, on the north-east side of Martinique, a small body of the French disappearing as they approached. As soon as it was dark they commenced their march, the men dragging two pieces of artillery, as the horses were quite unserviceable, from the length of time they had been on board ship. The roads were in such a wretched condition from the rains, that it was one o'clock in the morning ere they accomplished a distance of five miles, when they halted. In this manner they continued their march across the island towards Fort Bourbon.

"On the 1st of February, the Royal Fusiliers, and the "light companies of the brigade which were in advance, "drove a body of the enemy from *Morne Bruno* to the "heights of Sourier. Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis, who was "advancing in support with the grenadiers of the ROYAL "WELSH, now ascended the heights, and drove the enemy "across them, and down a narrow road between two sugar "plantations, at the mouth of which the grenadiers took "post. Here they were soon assailed by a superior force, "which they ultimately repulsed. The contest, however, "was most obstinate; the French repeatedly returning to "the attack, with drums beating. The grenadiers, how-"ever, maintained their ground, though with the loss of "twenty-six of their number killed and wounded.

"The remainder of the battalion now came up, and a "sharp action took place, which terminated in the retreat "of the French, and in which the ROYAL WELSH FUSI-"LIERS had upwards of a hundred men killed and wounded. "A most important position was now gained, from which all "the subsequent operations against *Fort Bourbon* were "directed. On the following morning two redoubts were "discovered in front, and in advance of them a body of the "enemy's infantry. The redoubts opened their fire, and a

" few men of the brigade were killed and wounded. Parties 1809
" from each regiment were now ordered forward ; they at-
" tacked and drove the enemy into their forts, but were
" ultimately obliged to retire, covered by the grenadiers,
" and Captain Keith's company of the ROYAL WELSH
" FUSILIERS. In this affair Lieutenant Roskelly was
" wounded. Sir George Beckwith now came up, and asked
" Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis whether he thought he could
" trust his grenadiers to storm the forts.—' Sir,' replied
" Colonel Ellis, ' I will take the flints out of their firelocks
" and they shall take them.' Sir George would not, how-
" ever, permit the attempt to be made. The enemy eva-
" cuated them during the night, spiking and dismounting
" the guns, and retired to a third fort near their principal
" works. The second division of the army having now
" come up, and the way being opened for the fleet by the
" capture of Pigeon Island, preparations were commenced
" for bombarding *Fort Bourbon.*

" Four mortar batteries opened on the evening of the
" 19th of February, and continued firing all night. This
" was repeated till the 23rd, when the French proposed
" terms of capitulation, which were deemed inadmissible,
" and the firing was resumed. On the following day three
" white flags were hoisted, and negotiations were opened,
" which terminated in the garrison, amounting to two thou-
" sand men fit for duty, besides seven hundred sick, laying
" down their arms and eagles, and becoming prisoners of war.

" The casualties of the first battalion during this ser-
" vice were two serjeants, and eighteen rank and file killed ;
" and two officers, Surgeon Power and Lieutenant Roskelly,
" three serjeants, and ninety-seven rank and file wounded.
" Of 850*l.* voted to the wounded at Martinique from the
" Patriotic Fund at Lloyd's, 250*l.* fell to the share of the
" *grenadier company* of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, out

1809 " of which sum the company erected a monument in the " Dutch church at Halifax, to the memory of their comrades " who fell in the expedition."*

For their distinguished conduct on this service, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS received the gracious permission of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, to bear the word "MARTINIQUE" on the regimental colour and appointments.

After the reduction of Fort Bourbon, the first battalion returned to Halifax with Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost.

1810 The first battalion embarked at Halifax, in Nova Scotia, on the 10th of November, 1810, arrived in the Tagus on the 11th of December, and having disembarked on the following day, marched on the 16th to join the army under Viscount Wellington, which was then advancing from the lines of Torres Vedras in pursuit of Marshal Massena; on the 18th the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS arrived at Sobral, where they joined the fourth division, commanded by Major-General the Honorable George Lowry Cole, under whose orders they continued till the termination of the war; they were brigaded with the two battalions of the seventh Royal Fusiliers under the Colonel the Honorable Henry Pakenham.

1811 The hostile armies soon went into cantonments; the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS in Azembuja, where they remained till the 24th of January, 1811, when they moved to Aveira de Cima; in the meantime Major-General Houston had been appointed to the command of the brigade.

On the 5th of March, Marshal Massena broke up from his cantonments at Santarem, and put his army in motion

* Letters and Journal of Lieutenant, afterwards Lieut.-Colonel, Harrison.

for the frontiers of Portugal. The allied army was immediately ordered in pursuit. The fourth division formed part of a force which was sent in the direction of Thomar, under the orders of Marshal Beresford, who, on the 12th, came up with a strong rear-guard of the enemy at *Redinha*. It was immediately attacked, and, after a sharp contest, driven in on the main body of the army. 1811

Viscount Wellington now determined to detach a considerable portion of his army to lay siege to Badajoz, which about this time fell into the hands of the French, and the fourth division was ordered on this service, the execution of which was entrusted to Marshal Beresford.

The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, having quitted the main army, marched by Thomar, and on the 18th of March crossed the Tagus at Tancos. A bridge having been constructed with some difficulty, the division crossed the Guadiana, and on the 9th of April arrived before *Olivença*, which they were directed to besiege. Major-General Cole sat down before the place on the 11th, and on the 15th, when the breaching battery was completed, sent a flag of truce into the town, offering favourable terms in case of an immediate surrender. No answer was returned, and the batteries opened their fire. A breach was soon effected, when the governor, apprehensive of an assault, made an unconditional surrender of the town, and the garrison, consisting of three hundred and seventy men, marched out prisoners of war.

Soon after this event Viscount Wellington arrived in the neighbourhood of *Badajoz*, and having reconnoitred the place, gave orders for the immediate commencement of the siege. The fortress was completely invested on the 8th of May, and the operations of the siege carried on with little effect till the 14th, when Marshal Beresford having received intelligence of the march of Marshal

1811 Soult from Seville with a strong force to raise the siege, broke up from before the place, and advanced to Valverde. The fourth division was left to cover the removal of the stores to Elvas,a service which was so completely effected, that not a single article fell into the hands of the enemy.

As the position of Valverde left Badajoz completely open, Marshal Beresford, on the 15th of May, moved his army to the heights of *Albuhera*, where he resolved to give battle. The fourth division joined on the morning of the 16th, only about half an hour before the commencement of the action, and formed, with a brigade of Portuguese, the second line of the British and Portuguese army; the Spanish troops, under Generals Blake and Castanos, forming in two lines the right of the allied army. About eight o'clock in the morning the enemy was observed to be in motion: a strong body of cavalry, and two heavy columns of infantry issued from the woods in front of the position, and moved on the bridge and village of *Albuhera*. Meanwhile Marshal Soult, with the main body of his army, crossed the river considerably above the position; and, having taken possession of the heights on the right, attacked and drove the Spaniards from their ground, and formed his line so as to rake that of the allies nearly at right angles. In order to dislodge the enemy from this commanding position, which he had thus gained, Major-General Cole was ordered to form his division in an oblique line in rear of the right, with his now right thrown back, and an ineffectual attempt was made to make the Spanish troops advance. Major-General Stewart's division now arrived from the centre of the line, passed through the Spaniards, and attacked the heights. At this period of the action a heavy storm of rain, added to the smoke of the guns, obscured the atmosphere so much, that the leading brigade of this division, while in

the act of deploying, was attacked by a body of Polish Lancers, when two regiments were unfortunately broken and cut to pieces. Major-General Hoghton's brigade next arrived, and sustained the contest for some time with the greatest gallantry, but the enemy's artillery and musketry spread havoc through their ranks, while a deep gulley in their front prevented the British from using their bayonets. At this crisis the fourth division was ordered to advance, and Major-General the Honorable George Lowry Cole in person led the *Fusilier* brigade up the heights. 1811

" Such a gallant line issuing from the midst of smoke, " and rapidly separating itself from the confusion and " broken multitude, startled the enemy's heavy masses, " which were increasing and pressing forward as to an " assured victory; they wavered, hesitated, and then " vomiting forth a storm of fire, hastily endeavoured to " enlarge their front, while their fearful discharge of grape, " from all their artillery, whistled through the British " ranks. Myers was killed; Cole, and the colonels, " Ellis, Blakeney,* and Hawkeshawe fell, wounded; and " the Fusilier battalions, struck by the iron tempest, " reeled and staggered like sinking ships. Suddenly and " sternly recovering, they closed on their terrible enemies, " and then was seen with what a strength and majesty " the British soldier fights. In vain did Soult, by voice " and gesture animate his Frenchmen; in vain did the " hardiest veterans, extricating themselves from the " crowded columns, sacrifice their lives to gain time for " the mass to open on such a fair field; in vain did the " mass itself bear up, and, fiercely striving, fire indis- " criminately on friends and foes, while the horsemen,

* Now Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir Edward Blakeney, commanding the forces in Ireland.

1811 "hovering on the flanks, threatened to charge the advanc-
"ing line. Nothing could stop that astonishing infantry
"No sudden burst of undisciplined valour, no nervous
"enthusiasm weakened the stability of their order,—their
"flashing eyes were bent on the dark columns in front;
"their measured tread shook the ground; their dreadful
"volleys swept away the head of every formation; their
"deafening shouts overpowered the dissonant cries that
"broke from all parts of the tumultuous crowd, as foot
"by foot, and with a horrid carnage, it was driven by the
"incessant vigour of the attack, to the farthest edge of
"the hill. In vain did the French reserves, joining with
"the struggling multitude, endeavour to sustain the fight;
"their efforts only increased the irremediable confusion;
"and the mighty mass giving way, like a loosened cliff,
"went headlong down the ascent. The rain flowed after
"in streams discoloured with blood, and fifteen hundred
"unwounded men, the remnant of six thousand uncon-
"querable British soldiers, stood triumphant on the fatal
"hill."*

The loss of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS in this desperate conflict was severe. Captain Montague, and Lieutenant Hall, one serjeant, and seventy-three rank and file killed: Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis, Captains Hurford, M'Donald, and Stainforth, Lieutenants Harrison, Treeve, Booker, Thorpe, Castles, Harris, Ledwith, and M'Lellan, twelve serjeants, one drummer, two hundred and thirty-two rank and file wounded, and one serjeant and five rank file missing; Captain M'Donald and Lieutenant Castles died of their wounds. So numerous were the casualties among the officers and serjeants, that Captain Stainforth's company was, at the conclusion of the action, commanded by a corporal, named Thomas Robinson.

* Colonel Napier's History of the Peninsular War.

About three o'clock in the afternoon both armies resumed the positions they had respectively occupied in the morning, and remained in them during the 17th of May. On the morning of the 18th Marshal Soult retired towards Seville, pursued for some distance by the allied cavalry, though far inferior in numbers. 1811

On the retreat of the French, the siege of Badajoz was resumed, and the place again completely invested on the 25th of May, under the immediate superintendence of Viscount Wellington. The additional divisions arrived from the northern army to assist, and the fourth division was stationed at Almandralejo to cover the operations; these were continued till the 10th of June. A breach had been effected, and had been twice assaulted without success, on the 6th and 9th, when Viscount Wellington, in consequence of the information he received of the movements of the French generals, converted the siege into a blockade, and removed the stores to Elvas, himself taking post at Albuhera. As the forces, however, which were moving upon Badajoz proved to be greatly superior in numbers to the allies, his Lordship retired across the Guadiana, and placed the army in position on the Caza, with the right protected by the fortress of Elvas.

The army continued in this position till the middle of July, when the French corps, which were opposed to it, having separated, the fourth division marched to the north, and joined the main army, which was occupied in blockading *Ciudad Rodrigo*. Towards the end of September, Marshal Marmont, having been joined by the corps of General Dorseene, advanced to raise the blockade, and Viscount Wellington withdrew on the 25th to the heights of *Fuente Guinaldo*. Several partial encounters took place on the 25th and 26th, and during the succeeding night the Allies retired towards Alfazates, leaving the fourth

1811 division as a rear-guard at *Aldea de Ponte*. This village was attacked on the 27th by the French advanced guard, which twice succeeded in gaining possession of it, and was as often repulsed by the gallant division, which remained masters of the disputed post, and which it maintained till night, when it fell back to Soita. Viscount Wellington having asked Major-General Pakenham for a "stop-gap regiment" to cover the retreat of the division, the latter replied, "That he had already placed the ROYAL WELSH "FUSILIERS there." "Ah!" said his lordship, "that is "the very thing."

In these affairs Captain Van Courtland was killed, and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Pearson, commanding the light companies of the brigade, and Captain Cane were severely wounded.

Viscount Wellington awaited the enemy in the position of Soita; but Marshal Marmont, satisfied with the sample he already had of the prowess of his opponents, declined an engagement, and retired to Ciudad Rodrigo. The Allies went into cantonments on the frontiers of Portugal.

While in quarters, the troops were employed under the direction of the engineers, in preparing large quantities of fascines and gabions, which they were soon summoned to employ in the siege of *Ciudad Rodrigo*.

1812 As the fourth division contributed to this brilliant affair only by taking its turn of duty in the trenches,—in which the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS suffered a loss of seventeen rank and file killed and wounded,—it may be sufficient to state that the ground was broken on the night of the 8th of January, 1812, and that on the 19th of the same month the place was taken by storm; a rapidity of operation which Marshal Marmont, (who was approaching somewhat hastily to its relief,) declared to be quite incomprehensible.

Having repaired the works of Ciudad Rodrigo, and

placed a Spanish garrison in it, the Earl of Wellington next 1812
turned his attention to *Badajoz*. The preparations for the siege of this fortress had been carried on with extraordinary secrecy, and were completed about the beginning of March. The army broke up from its cantonments in the neighbourhood of Almeida, and marching with the greatest rapidity, arrived before *Badajoz* on the 16th of that month, when the place was invested by the third, fourth, and light divisions. On the 6th of April, three breaches were considered practicable, and orders were issued for the assault. The storming of the breaches in the face of the bastion of *La Trinidad*, and in the curtain between that bastion and that of Santa Maria, was assigned to the fourth division, led by Major-General the Honorable Charles Colville.

The troops destined for this service issued from the works at nine o'clock at night; when on the glacis they were discovered by the enemy, who poured a heavy fire upon them; they, nevertheless, advanced in good order to the covered way, which they entered at various points where the palisades had been broken by the fire of the besiegers. Bags of hay were now thrown into the ditch to lessen its depth; and on these the men jumped down, or descended by the ladders. The ditch was now filled with men, and the enemy exploded an incredible number of fougasses, shells, and other combustibles, which they had arranged along the foot of the breach, and in the ditch: their effect was in the highest degree appalling, as well as destructive, and naturally created some confusion among the assailants. In the midst of this fire, smoke, and noise, three flank companies of the fourth division, that were intended for the attack of the breach, in the curtain, mounted an unfinished ravelin in front of it, conceiving it to be the breach itself. They soon discovered

1812 their mistake; but being now exposed to a musketry fire from the whole of the front attacked, and seeing a difficult descent, before they could reach the foot of the breach, they halted, and returned the fire of the garrison. At this crisis the light division, which was to have stormed the breach in the bastion of Santa Maria, being led too much to the right, joined these flank companies of the fourth division on the summit of the ravelin, and considerably increased the confusion. Order being at length restored, these troops were conducted to the real points of attack.

In the meantime the columns of the fourth division moved on to the attack of the breach *La Trinidad*, without firing a shot; but from want of sufficient ladders, there was no formation of the troops to make them advance with effect. Only the bravest, prompted by their individual gallantry, or those nearest the spot, followed their officers; and the enemy was found to be so well prepared, that notwithstanding the most heroic and persevering efforts of the assailants, no lodgment could be effected on the breach. As the men ascended, the besieged rolled down upon them an astonishing number of loaded shells, and exploded a variety of other combustibles, which had been previously arranged on the face of the breach. Several officers and men reached the summit, and grappled with the *chevaux-de-frise* with which it was guarded; but being unable to force over them, they were much cut and bayoneted in their attempts to remove them; and finally, driven down the breach with great slaughter. Though thus repulsed in repeated assaults by the seemingly inexhaustible combustibles of the enemy, not an individual attempted to withdraw from the scene of carnage; but all remained patiently to be slaughtered in the ditch. The Earl of Wellington, however, hearing of the state of affairs,

ordered the divisions to be withdrawn, and to be formed 1812
again for a renewal of the assault a little before daylight. The success of the third and fifth divisions in escalading the castle and the bastion of San Vincente, however, obviated the necessity of any ulterior measures,—the British were already masters of Badajoz.

The loss of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS during the siege and in the assault was,—Captain Maw and Lieutenant Collins, three serjeants, and nineteen rank and file, killed. Lieut.-Colonel Ellis, Captains Potter, Leahy, Stainforth, and Hawtyn,—Lieutenants Farmer, Johnson Harrison, George Brown, Walley, Brownson, Walker, Tucker, Fielding, Holmes, Llewellyn, and Wyngate,—seven serjeants, one drummer, and eighty-four rank and file wounded; of whom, Captain Potter and Lieutenant Llewellyn died of their wounds; one serjeant and nineteen rank and file missing. On the night of the assault, in consequence of Colonel Ellis's wounds, the battalion was commanded by Captain Leahy.

Major-General the Honorable Charles Colville was severely wounded, and carried from the breach by Serjeant James Ingram, of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

After the fall of Badajoz, the army marched to the north; and on the 16th of June, arrived at Salamanca. Marshal Marmont retired on its approach, leaving garrisons in some forts which commanded the Tormes at that place. The Allies crossed the river by the fords above and below the town; and while the sixth division besieged the forts, the remainder were held in readiness to oppose the main body of the enemy, who still attempted to keep up a communication with them. On the 20th, Marshal Marmont appeared in front of the position of *San Christoval*, and made a strong demonstration with his cavalry on the plain; but after a warm skirmish, again

1812 retired. Lieutenant Leonard, of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, while witnessing the affair, was killed by a chance shot from a great distance. The forts being taken on the 27th, the French retired to the Douro; but being soon reinforced, resumed the offensive, and obliged the Allied army to retire in turn. These movements continued several weeks, each General narrowly watching his adversary, and holding himself in readiness to attack, on the commission of any important fault. Such an opportunity presented itself on the 22nd of July, on the plains of *Salamanca,* and the Earl of Wellington hastened to avail himself of it. The attack was made against the centre and left of the enemy. On the former point the resistance was obstinate. The fourth division advanced to the attack in line, exposed to a very accurate fire of grape, round, &c.: it carried two positions in the most gallant style,—but the most determined valour must yield to numbers. It was opposed to Bonnet's division, about ten thousand strong,—got intermixed with the lines of the enemy, who involved it,—deployed on the left flank of the Portuguese brigade of the division, and finally, compelled the French to retrograde about four hundred yards: here it re-formed, and being joined by the supports, the sixth division renewed the attack with complete success.

The victory of Salamanca cost the regiment Major Offley, and nine rank and file killed; Lieut.-Colonel Ellis, Major Dalmer, Lieutenants John Enoch,* M'Donald, Fryer, and Clyde, and eighty-four rank and file wounded.

The enemy being now driven across the Douro, the Marquis of Wellington, to which title his Lordship had been advanced after this victory, marched upon Madrid, where the army arrived on the 12th of August. Nothing

* Now Major Enoch, Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General at Head Quarters.

could exceed the enthusiasm with which the allies were 1812
received by the inhabitants of the capital; thousands came forth to meet them, bearing branches of laurel and other emblems of triumph. All business was suspended in the city,—the streets were strewed with flowers,—and the houses decorated as on occasions of the greatest festivity. Bull-fights and other public amusements were exhibited for their entertainment.

From this scene of gaiety and dissipation, the regiment removed to the Escurial, where it remained till the retreat of the army to the frontiers of Portugal, in consequence of the failure of an attack on the Castle of Burgos, and the approach of Marshal Soult, with his army, from Andalusia, and of General Clausel, with the troops that had been beaten at Salamanca.

The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS reached Soutilla, on the banks of the Douro, on the 5th of December, so reduced by eleven months of incessant service, that they were about this time formed into six divisions of twelve files each.

In the course of the winter a few men joined from the 1813
second battalion; but the regiment commenced the campaign of 1813, with only three hundred effective men; most of these, however, were hardy experienced veterans, and all were newly clothed, and in the highest state of equipment.

The army did not take the field this year till the middle of May, when it advanced and drove the enemy from his position on the Douro; following him up without intermission, as far as *Vittoria*, where, on the 21st of June, a general action was fought, which terminated in the total defeat of the French, commanded by King Joseph, who narrowly escaped being made prisoner. On this occasion the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS did not come in immediate collision with the enemy. Lieutenant Sydney was

1813 wounded, and four men killed, in driving the French across the Zadorra, on the 19th of July.

In consequence of this decisive victory, the whole of the French, with the exception of the garrisons of San Sebastian and Pampeluna, evacuated the Spanish territory, and retired across the Pyrenees. The blockade of Pampeluna was entrusted to the Spaniards; the fourth division covering them in front of the pass of Roncesvalles. On the 25th of July, Marshal Soult, who now commanded the French army, made his appearance in the pass, with a very superior force; and the division, after an obstinate resistance, was compelled to retire to a strong position in the rear, which the enemy did not venture to attack. On the two following days, the enemy continued to advance in great force; and the allied army, which was now concentrated to protect the blockade of *Pampeluna*, fell back on that fortress, near which, on the 28th of July, both armies appeared in order of battle.

The chief efforts of the enemy during this day, were directed against the position occupied by the fourth division, which was engaged in a contest second only to that of Albuhera, in severity. "The battle of the 28th of "July was a beautiful display of military manœuvres; the "enemy formed his columns in the most perfect order, and "advanced to the attack with a rapidity and impetus, ap- "parently irresistible. I was in immediate support of the "seventh Caçadores (Portuguese), who were the advanced "piquet, and consequently received the first shock of the "enemy's column. My people only thought of fighting, "and at once checked their progress. Our supports on "both sides were brought up, and the contest continued with "varying success till four o'clock, when the enemy with- "drew, only leaving his voltigeurs in our front. We had "three divisions upon us,—the fourth, fifth, and seventh;

"the two former were chiefly opposed to the fortieth, who 1813
"made two unheard-of charges; indeed, the whole day was
"a succession of charges."* "In the course of this con-
"test," says the Marquis of Wellington, "the gallant fourth
"division, which had been so frequently distinguished in
"this army, surpassed their former good conduct.† Every
"regiment charged with the bayonet: and the fortieth,
"seventh, twentieth and TWENTY-THIRD, four different
"times." Their officers set them the example, and Major-General Ross, commanding the brigade, had a horse killed under him.

On the 28th, Captains Stainforth and Walker were killed, and Lieut.-Colonel Ellis, Lieutenants the Honorable John Neville, Harris, Brice, and Adjutant M'Lellan were wounded. "The battalion," says Colonel Ellis, "has "only the semblance of one. I commenced the action of "the 25th, with only two hundred and fifty-four; so with "the loss of one hundred and five in action, sick, and "attendants on the wounded, I am reduced to one hundred "and sixty bayonets. On the morning of the 30th, when "formed for the pursuit of Marshal Soult, I only stood "one hundred and twenty-one; and by the 2nd of "August, I was reduced to one hundred and eight."

On the 29th of July, both armies remained inactive; but on the 30th the enemy was observed to be in motion. He was instantly attacked, and compelled totally to abandon a position which the Marquis of Wellington declared to be one of the strongest and most difficult of access ever occupied by troops. On the 2nd of August, the French

* Letter of Lieut.-Colonel Ellis to Captain, now Lieut.-Colonel Harrison.

† Colonel Ellis, in the letter above quoted, feelingly laments that his Lordship had not witnessed the conduct of the regiment in the battle of Albuhera, which he declares is "still without a parallel."

1813 were once more driven through the passes of the *Pyrenees*, into their own territory.

The siege of *San Sebastian*, which had been suspended on the advance of Marshal Soult to the relief of Pampeluna, was now resumed. On the 31st of August, the breach was carried by assault; the storming party consisted of volunteers from the different divisions of the army, and those of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were commanded by Lieutenant Griffiths, who was among the wounded.

After the fall of San Sebastian, the hostile armies remained for some time inactive, or occupied only in strengthening their respective positions, and preparing for the further prosecution of the campaign. The troops, however, suffered severely from the inclemency of the weather. Exposed on the bleak summits of the Pyrenees, they gazed with intense longing on the beautiful plains of France, which lay stretched out beneath their feet. The close neighbourhood of a watchful enemy rendered the greatest vigilance necessary, and the duties were severe.

The moment so ardently desired at length arrived. Early on the morning of the 7th of October, the army, under favour of a dark and stormy sky, descended from the heights, crossed the Bidassoa, and established itself on the French territory, with little opposition from the enemy. The continued inclemency of the weather, and the badness of the roads, retarded the further advance of the army till the 10th of November, when all preparations being completed, the columns moved down the passes of the Pyrenees in the most perfect silence, and lay down, each at its appointed station, to await the dawn of day to make their attack. This was commenced by the fourth division, which carried a strong redoubt in front of the village of *Sarre*, drove the enemy from that village, and

continued its advance against the heights in its rear, ex- 1813
posed to the fire of entrenchments by which the position was secured. These, however, were successively abandoned as the division advanced, the enemy flying in great disorder, towards the bridges on the *Nivelle;* the garrison of one redoubt, which alone offered any resistance, were made prisoners. The other attacks were all equally successful, and terminated in Marshal Soult withdrawing the whole of his army, and resigning his position to the Allies, who now went into cantonments in advance of the Nivelle, where they were permitted another interval of repose.

On the 9th of December, the army was again in motion and attacked the enemy's position on the *Nive;* on that and the four following days, a severe contest was maintained by the hostile forces, in which each was in turn the assailant. The flanks of the position were the contested points, and the fourth division, which was in the centre, was not immediately engaged; but it had much severe duty in marching to the support of either flank, as they were successively engaged.

On the 11th of December, two battalions of Nassau troops, having heard of the liberation of their country from the yoke of Napoleon, deserted from the French, and were received by Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis, who then commanded the brigade.

After the passage of the Nive the army again went into 1814
cantonments; the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS at Ustaritz, where they remained till the middle of February, 1814, when they again took the field, and drove the enemy through a most difficult and intersected country, till on the 27th of February, he took up a strong position at *Orthes*, where he determined to await the issue of a battle. The attack was commenced by Major-General the Honor-

1814 able George Lowry Cole, with the fourth division, carrying the village of St. Boe's, after an obstinate struggle. Marshal Beresford, who directed the movements of this part of the line, next turned his attention to two lines of the enemy, posted on the height, above; the only approach to these lay along a narrow tongue of ground, flanked on either side by a deep ravine, and completely exposed to the fire of the enemy's artillery. In this confined situation it was impossible to deploy, and so destructive was the action of the enemy's guns on the columns, that notwithstanding the most gallant and persevering efforts of the fourth division, it was impossible to gain the heights. By a powerful attack in flank, however, the enemy was at length driven from the position, and forced to retreat with precipitation, pursued by the cavalry, who made many prisoners.

Captains Wynore and Jolliffe, and Lieutenant Harris, were severely wounded; and fifty men were killed and wounded.

By the 10th of April the whole army had crossed the Garonne, and an immediate attack on the enemy's position, under the walls of *Toulouse*, being resolved on, it was begun by the fourth division, which, having driven the enemy from the village of Mont Blanc, proceeded in open columns along the front of the position till they gained the extreme right, when they wheeled up, and advanced in line, overcoming all resistance, and forcing the French from the heights, and beyond their entrenchments. Here they waited for the artillery, which, owing to the badness of the roads and the rapidity of the advance, had been left behind. As soon as the artillery came up, they continued their advance along the ridge, following up their success, till the enemy, repulsed on all points, was compelled to take refuge within the walls of Toulouse.

The TWENTY-THIRD were not much exposed to

musketry in this action, but were under a heavy cannonade 1814
the whole day. The casualties did not exceed eight men killed and wounded.

During the night of the 11th of April, the French army evacuated Toulouse, and the white flag was hoisted. On the day following, the Marquis of Wellington entered the city amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants. In the afternoon of that day intelligence was received of the abdication of Napoleon; and had not the express been detained on the journey by the police, the sacrifice of many valuable lives would have been prevented. A disbelief in the truth of this intelligence also occasioned much unnecessary bloodshed at *Bayonne*, the garrison of which made a desperate sortie on the 14th of April, and Lieut.-General Hope was wounded and taken prisoner. Major-General Hay was killed, and Major-General Stopford was wounded. This was the last action of the Peninsular war.

By the treaty of peace, the island of Elba was ceded to Napoleon Bonaparte in full sovereignty for life, and a pension payable from the revenues of France. On the 3rd of May, 1814, Louis XVIII. entered Paris, and ascended the throne of his ancestors.

After the battle of Toulouse, the first battalion of the TWENTY-THIRD Regiment marched to Langon, near Bordeaux, where it was stationed during the whole of the month of May. On the 1st of June it marched for Blancfort, where it arrived on the 6th, and embarked on board the 'Egmont,' 74, disembarked on the 25th at Plymouth, from whence it soon after marched to Gosport.

For the services performed by the first battalion during the Peninsular war, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS have received the Royal Authority to bear on the regimental colour and appointments, the words "ALBUHERA,"

1814 "BADAJOZ," "SALAMANCA," "VITTORIA," "PYRENEES," "NIVELLE," "ORTHES," "TOULOUSE," and "PENINSULA."

Lieut.-Colonel Ellis, who had been promoted (4th June, 1814) to the rank of Colonel by Brevet, was appointed a Knight Commander of the Bath, and received the honorary distinction of a Cross, and one Clasp. Lieut.-Colonel Sutton, also Colonel by Brevet, and Knight Commander of the Bath, a Cross and three Clasps, for his services in the Portuguese army. Lieut.-Colonel Pearson, a Medal. Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Dalmer, a Medal and one Clasp. Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Hill, attached to the Portuguese army, a Cross. Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Hurford, a Medal and one Clasp. Captain Leahy, who commanded the regiment at the storming of Badajoz, a Medal.

On the 25th of October, 1814, the second battalion was reduced, when twenty-six serjeants, twenty-one corporals, twenty-three drummers, and three hundred and seventy-seven privates, were transferred to the first battalion, which now mustered upwards of one thousand rank and file. Of these, however, many of the veterans of Holland, Egypt, Martinique, and the Peninsula, and some limited service men, were soon after discharged.

1815 On the return of Napoleon from Elba, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were again ordered on service, and embarked at Gosport on the 23rd of March, 1815. On the 30th they disembarked at Ostend, and immediately proceeded in canal boats to Bruges, from whence they marched to Ghent, and subsequently to Lessines, where they were attached to the fourth division, commanded by Lieutenant-General the Honorable Sir Charles Colville.

On the 24th of April the regiment marched to Grammont, where it remained, with the intermission of a few

days, till the 15th of June, when the troops were hastily 1815
summoned from their cantonments in consequence of the advance of the French army, commanded by the Emperor in person. The ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS marched with the greatest expedition during the whole of the 16th and 17th, and arrived late in the evening of the latter day, at Braine la Leude, in the neighbourhood of which they bivouacked in a wheat-field, under torrents of rain.

The station of the fourth division, on the memorable 18th of June, was in the reserve; and during the early part of the day, the regiment was merely exposed to a distant cannonade, from which it suffered no loss. The light companies of the brigade were, however, engaged, and lost some men.

As the day advanced, Colonel Sir Henry Ellis perceiving an opening where his regiment might be employed with advantage, moved it up into the line; where, formed in square, it sustained several charges of the French cuirassiers. The greater number of the men were now, for the first time, in presence of an enemy; but these emulated the steadiness of their veteran comrades, and all nobly maintained the character of the regiment.

The glories of the battle of WATERLOO were, however, dearly purchased by the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS with the life of their beloved commander, Sir Henry Ellis, who, continuing on horseback in the centre of the square, was struck with a musket ball in the right breast. Feeling himself faint from loss of blood, he calmly desired an opening might be made in the square, and rode to the rear. At a short distance from the field he was thrown from his horse while in the act of leaping a ditch; here he was found soon afterwards, much exhausted, and conveyed to a neighbouring out-house, where his wound was dressed. In the course of the night

1815 of the 19th, the hovel in which he was lodged unfortunately caught fire, and he was with difficulty rescued from the flames by Assistant-Surgeon Munro, of the regiment; but exhausted by so many shocks, he soon after expired.*

The other casualties were, Brevet-Major Hawtyn, Captains Jolliffe and Farmer, Lieutenant Fenshaw, two

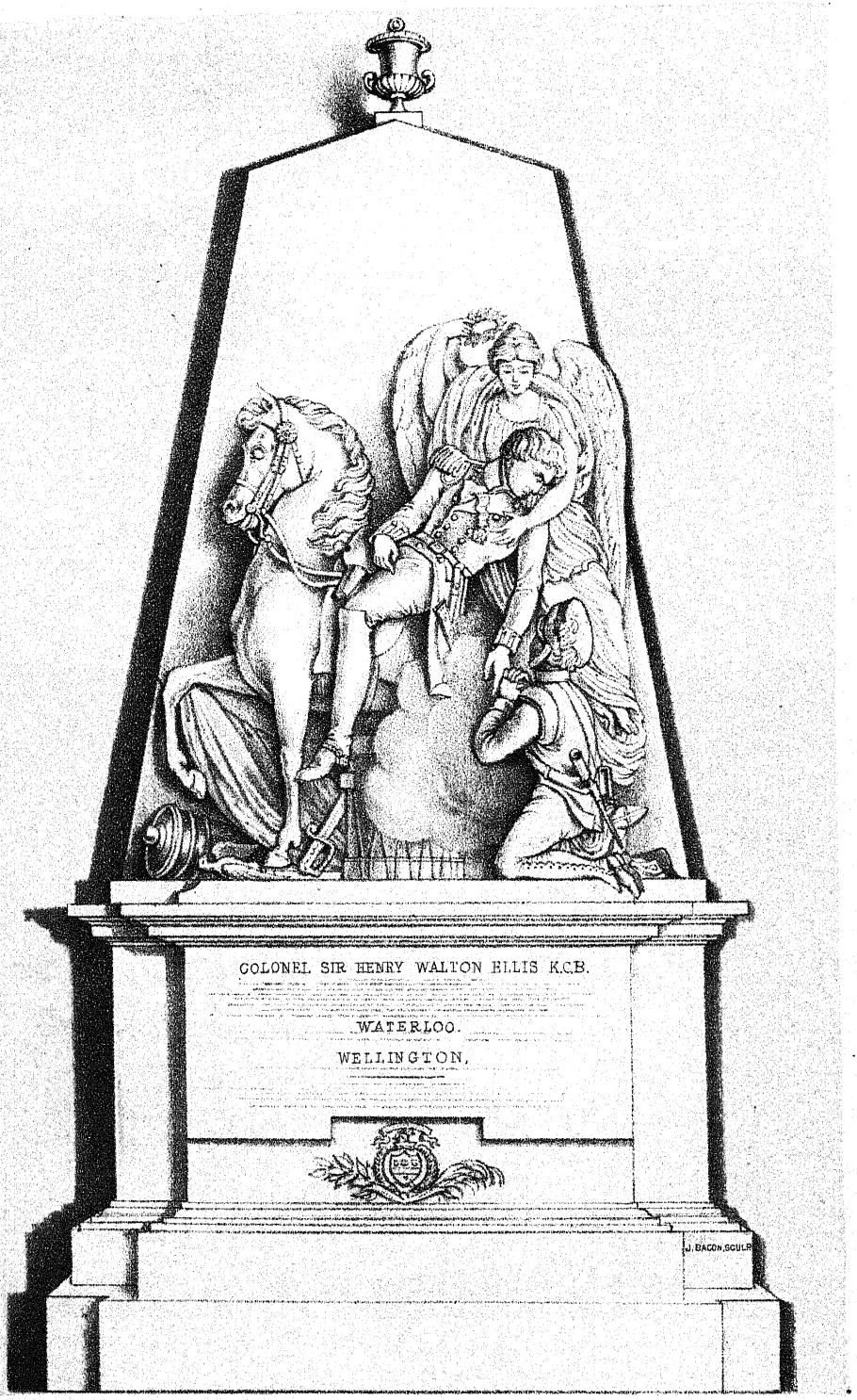
* The officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the regiment, have commemorated their affection and esteem for their distinguished leader, by erecting a monument to his memory, at a cost of 1200*l.*, in the Cathedral of Worcester, his native city. The following is the inscription :—

In Memory of
Colonel Sir HENRY WALTON ELLIS, K.C.B.,
A native of this city,
Who, at an early age, entered the TWENTY-THIRD Regiment,
Or, ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS,
Then commanded by his father, Major-General John Joyner Ellis,
And afterwards led on to honourable distinction by himself, during seven years of unexampled military renown;
Having received eight wounds, and rendered services as important as they were brilliant,
In Holland, Egypt, the West Indies, America, Spain, Portugal, and France,
He fell by a musket-shot at the head of his Regiment,
Almost in the glorious moment which announced victory to Great Britain, and Peace to Europe, on the memorable Plains of
Waterloo.
He died of his wounds on the 20th of June, 1815, aged 32 years.
His loss was lamented, and his worth recorded, by his illustrious Commander,
Wellington,
In words that will perish only with history itself.
This Monument was erected
By the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS,
As a Tribute of their respect and affection to the Memory of a Leader,
Not more distinguished for Valour and conduct in the Field,
Than beloved for every Generous and Social Virtue.

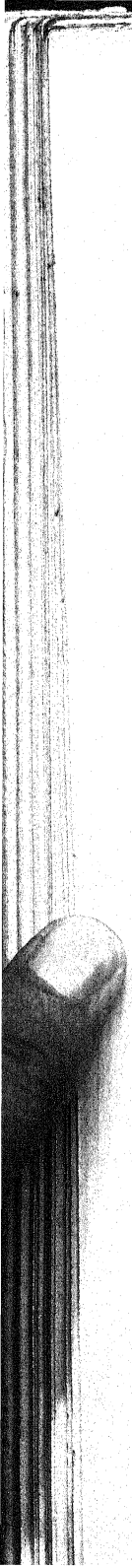
Extract from His Grace the Duke of Wellington's despatch, dated Orville, 29th of June, 1815 :—

"Your Lordship will see in the enclosed lists, the names of some "valuable officers lost to His Majesty's service. Among these I "cannot avoid to mention Colonel Cameron, of the Ninety-second, "and Colonel Sir Henry Ellis, of the TWENTY-THIRD regiment, to "whose conduct I have frequently drawn your Lordship's attention, "and who at last fell, distinguishing themselves at the head of the "brave troops which they commanded."

"Notwithstanding the glory of the occasion, it is impossible not "to lament such men, both on account of the public and as friends."



Madeley lith. 3 Wellington St. Strand



serjeants, and nine rank and file killed. Brevet Lieu- 1815
tenant-Colonel Hill, Captain Johnson, Lieutenants Fielding, Griffiths, Clyde, and Sidley, seven serjeants, and seventy-one rank and file wounded. Lieutenant Clyde died of his wounds.

The TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, received the royal authority to bear the word "WATERLOO" on the regimental colour and appointments, in commemoration of their services on this occasion; a medal was conferred on each officer and soldier; and the privilege of reckoning two years' service, towards additional pay and pension on discharge, was also granted to the men.

After this brilliant and decisive victory, the allied army advanced rapidly on the French capital. On the 24th, the fourth division arrived before Cambray, of which it took possession the same day: the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS entered by an old breach near the Port du Paris, with the loss of Lieut. Leebody, and one private killed. The citadel having surrendered on the following day, the division resumed its march to Paris on the 26th, and on the 1st of July encamped on the plain of St. Denis.

Lieutenant-General the Honorable Sir Lowry Cole, having now joined the army, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were, at his request, transferred to the sixth division, in which they were again brigaded with the seventh Royal Fusiliers, their associates in so many victories.

The regiment formed part of the Army of Occupation, 1818
and remained under the command of the Lieutenant-General, in Major-General Kempt's brigade, till October, 1818, when the British troops were withdrawn from France.

On their return from France, the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS were stationed in Ireland.

Major-General Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart., 1823

1823 K.C.B., Quarter-Master General to the Forces, was removed from the colonelcy of the eighty-fifth light infantry to that of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, on the 23rd of April, 1823, in succession to General Richard Grenville, deceased.*

In December, 1823, the regiment embarked for Gibraltar. Previous to the embarkation, the following general order was issued by Lieut.-General the Right Honorable Lord Combermere, G.C.B., commanding the Forces in Ireland.

"*Adjutant-General's Office, Dublin,*
24th November, 1823.

"GENERAL ORDER.

"The TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS "being on the point of embarkation for a foreign station, "Lieutenant-General Lord Combermere feels he cannot, "in too strong terms, express his approval of the general "good conduct and discipline of this superb regiment, "during the time it has been under his orders.

"The TWENTY-THIRD, so eminently distinguished for "its services in the field, has been uniformly conspicuous "in this command for its soldierlike appearance and be- "haviour; and from the ample opportunity the Lieu- "tenant-General has had of personal observation, he is "enabled to bear testimony to the merits of the system,— "evincing throughout the corps the greatest zeal, energy, "and talent on the part of Colonel Pearson, as well as un- "remitting attention on the part of all under his command.

"By command of the Lieutenant-General,
(Signed) "J. GARDINER, D.-A.-General.

"*Lieut.-Col. W. Harrison,*
commanding 23rd Fusiliers."

* *Vide* Letter addressed by Major-General Sir Willoughby Gordon, Bart., to Colonel Pearson, commanding the TWENTY-THIRD regiment, dated 28th of April 1823, inserted at page 187 of the Appendix.

In the year 1825 the regiment was formed into six *service* and four *depôt* companies, the latter being stationed first at Plymouth, and afterwards at Brecon. 1825

The depôt companies proceeded to Guernsey in April 1826, but returned to England in September following. 1826

In January, 1827, the regiment joined the expedition to Portugal, under Lieutenant-General Sir William Clinton; and in March, 1828, returned to Gibraltar.

In November, 1830, the depôt companies embarked for Ireland. 1830

On the 28th of October, 1834, the six service companies embarked at Gibraltar for England, and arrived at Gosport on the 10th of November, where they were joined by the depôt companies, which had been removed from Ireland in August. 1834

In September, 1836, the regiment embarked at Liverpool for Ireland, and landed at Dublin on the 14th of that month. 1836

On the 22nd of May, 1838, the six service companies, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Ross, embarked at Cork for Nova Scotia, where they arrived on the 13th of June. The four depôt companies remained in Ireland. 1838

In June, 1840, the depôt companies were removed from Ireland to Great Britain. 1840

The service companies proceeded from Nova Scotia, to Canada, in October, 1840.

In consequence of the augmentation of the army, in April, 1842, the TWENTY-THIRD regiment was ordered to be separated into two battalions, the service companies abroad being styled the *First Battalion*, and the depôt, augmented by two new companies, being styled the *Reserve Battalion*. The depôt was accordingly moved from Carlisle to Chichester, and there receiving one hundred and eighty volunteers from other corps, was organised for foreign service; the reserve battalion embarked from 1842

1842 Portsmouth, for Canada, on the 13th of May, 1842, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Wellesley Torrens, and arrived at Montreal on the 30th of June following.

1843 The first battalion proceeded from Quebec to the West Indies, in September, 1843, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Wellesley Torrens, and arrived at Barbadoes in October.

1844 The first battalion remained at Barbadoes until November, 1844, when it proceeded to the Island of Trinidad.

In the year 1844, the Regimental Goat* died, and Her Majesty was pleased to direct that the two finest goats belonging to a flock in Windsor Park, the gift of the Shah of Persia, should be given to the regiment; one of these *joined* the first battalion at Halifax, and is still *serving* "the observed of all observers;"—the other was sent to the reserve battalion in Canada.

1845 During the year 1845, the first battalion remained at Trinidad.

1846 In April, 1846, the first battalion proceeded to Antigua, where it remained until December, when it was moved to Barbadoes.

While the first battalion was stationed in the West Indies, Lieut.-Colonel Torrens, of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, for two years and a half administered the civil government of St. Lucia, and by the sanitary measures pursued by him, preserved the health of the troops serving in that island with unprecedented success. The correspondence on this subject was subsequently published, by command of His Grace the Duke of Wellington, Commander-in-Chief, for the information and guidance of General (or other) Officers, commanding at foreign stations, in a circular letter dated

* *Vide* Appendix, page 177.

from the Horse Guards, on the 18th of November, 1847, 1846
in which it was directed that similar precautions might be attended to at all military commands, where draining and clearing were requisite, particularly pointing out the salutary effects of removing from the immediate vicinity of military stations all superabundant vegetation, brushwood, strong weeds, rank grass, &c., by means of fatigue parties, as had been effected at St. Lucia.

On quitting the colony, the offer of the permanent Lieutenant-Governorship, on an augmented salary, was made to Lieutenant-Colonel Torrens by Her Majesty's Government; but it was declined,—the Lieutenant-Colonel preferring to continue his service in the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

The first battalion embarked on board the freight ship 1847
'Herefordshire,' at Barbadoes, on the 16th of March, 1847, and sailed for Nova Scotia, where it arrived in the beginning of April.

In September, 1848, the first battalion embarked at 1848
Halifax, in Nova Scotia, for England, under the command of Major Charles Crutchley, and was afterwards stationed at Winchester.

On Thursday the 12th of July, 1849, new Colours were 1849
presented to the regiment by Field Marshal His Royal Highness the Prince Albert, at Winchester Barracks.

The first battalion being drawn up in line, with the old Colours in the centre, received His Royal Highness with the usual honors: the flank companies were then brought forward so as to form three sides of a square, to the centre of which the new Colours were brought under escort, and piled on an altar of drums. The Reverend George Gleig, M.A., Chaplain-General to the Forces, then consecrated them, after which His

1849 Royal Highness delivered them to Lieutenants Bruce and Sutton, making the following address to the battalion :—

"Soldiers of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers! The ceremony "which we are performing this day, is a most important, "and to every soldier, a sacred one: it is the transmission "to your care, and keeping, of the Colours which are "henceforth to be borne before you,—which will be the "symbol of your honor, and your rallying point in all "moments of danger.

"I feel most proud to be the person who is to transmit "these Colours to a regiment so renowned for its valour, "fortitude, steadiness, and discipline.

"In looking over the records of your services, I could "not refrain from extracting a few, which show your "deeds to have been intimately connected with all the "great periods in our history.

"The regiment was raised in 1689. Its existence "therefore began with the settlement of the liberties of "the country. It fought at the *Boyne* under Schomberg; "captured *Namur* in Flanders in 1695; formed part of "the great Marlborough's legions at *Blenheim*, *Ramilies*, "*Oudenarde*, and *Malplaquet;* fought in 1743, at *Dettingen*, "and at *Fontenoy* in 1745; decided the battle of *Minden* "in 1759, for which the name of MINDEN is inscribed "on the colours. Showed examples of valour and per- "severance in America: in 1775 at *Bunker's Hill*, in "1777 at *Brandywine*, in 1780 at the capture of *Charles-* "*town*, and in 1781 at *Guildford*. The regiment ac- "companied the Duke of York to *Holland*; was amongst "the first to land in *Egypt*, in 1801, under the brave "Abercromby, and was the last to embark at *Corunna* "in 1809. Between these two important services, it fought "at *Copenhagen*, and was at the taking of *Martinique*.

" EGYPT, MARTINIQUE, and CORUNNA are waving on 1849
" these colours. In the Peninsula the regiment won for
" its colours, under the Duke of Wellington, the names
" of ALBUHERA, BADAJOZ, SALAMANCA, VITTORIA,
" PYRENEES, NIVELLE, ORTHES, and TOULOUSE. The
" deeds performed at Albuhera are familiar to everybody
" who has read Napier's unsurpassable description of that
" action. The regiment was again victorious over a
" powerful enemy at the Duke's last great victory at
" WATERLOO.

" Although you are all, of course, well acquainted
" with these glorious records, I have thought it right
" to refer to them as a proof that they have not been
" forgotten by others, and as the best mode of appealing
" to you to show yourselves at all times worthy of the
" Name you bear.

" Receive these Colours, *one*, emphatically called THE
" QUEEN'S,—let it be a pledge of your loyalty to your
" Sovereign, and of obedience to the laws of your country;
" the *other*, more especially the REGIMENTAL one,—let
" that be a pledge of your determination to maintain the
" honor of your regiment. In looking at the one,—you
" will think of your Sovereign; in looking at the *other*,
" you will think of those who have fought, bled, and
" conquered before you."

To which gracious address Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Wellesley Torrens replied in these words, " May it please
" your Royal Highness. In the name of the ROYAL
" WELSH FUSILIERS, I return you the heartfelt thanks
" of the regiment, for the honor you have conferred upon
" us this day.

" The eminent services of the ROYAL WELSH FUSI-
" LIERS, during a lapse of one hundred and sixty years,
" are deeply impressed upon our memories, and while

1849 "we welcome the responsibilities, we feel the privilege "of succeeding to so vast an inheritance of renown.

"Our hearts have beat with pride and exultation to "hear those achievements so accurately remembered, and "so gracefully recorded by your Royal Highness, the "honored Consort of the Sovereign to whose service we "have devoted our lives.

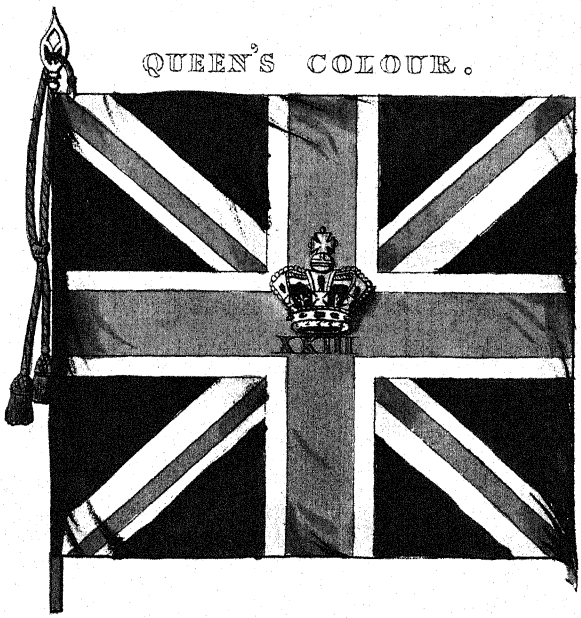
"With the exception of a brave and skilful officer "(Lieutenant-Colonel Holmes) now absent in command "of a battalion of the regiment in America, and of two "highly respected veteran officers present upon this "parade (the pay-master and the quarter-master of the "battalion), not one of the present generation of Welsh "Fusiliers has had a share in the acquisition of the "glorious badges which are inscribed on their colours.

"But though it has not been our good fortune to have "taken part in any of the campaigns since the termination "of the great continental War, the regiment has served "faithfully, patiently, and honorably, though with less "brilliant glory indeed, during a prolonged foreign and "colonial service in every climate, from the burning sun "of the Mediterranean and of Portugal, to the snows of the "Canadas, and the heat and pestilence of the West "Indian archipelago.

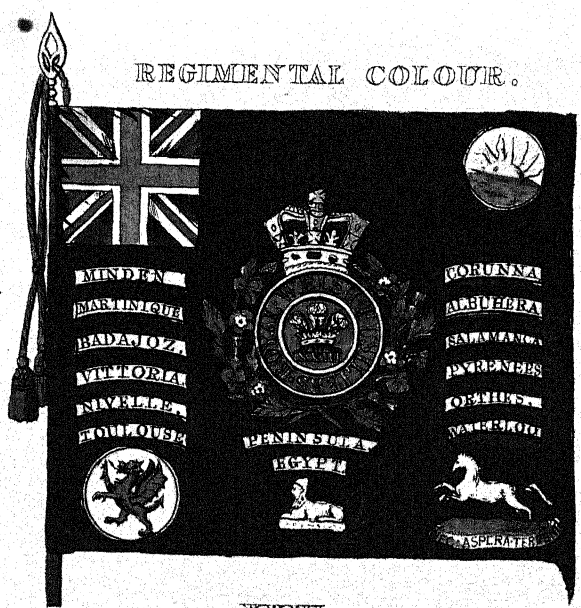
"Throughout I have seen the discipline of the regi- "ment preserved, and its high spirit maintained; and, "Sir, I know and feel, that when the hour of trial shall "arrive, it will be found that a discipline so patient "and so enduring, is animated yet by the self-same "determination which hurled back the French masses "from *Albuhera* heights, and stemmed their squadrons "on the crowning field of *Waterloo*."

The new Colours were then trooped, and took the place of the old ones, which were marched off the parade.

QUEEN'S COLOUR.



REGIMENTAL COLOUR.



XXIII.

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

For Cannon's Military Records.

Mudeley 28th. 3 Wellington St. Strand.

The battalion then marched past in slow and quick 1849
time.

His Royal Highness afterwards honored the officers with his presence at luncheon.

The old Colours were lodged in the church of St. Peter's, Carmarthen, on the 19th of November, 1849, with military honors.

In April, 1850, to which the Historical Record of the 1850
regiment has been brought, the first battalion, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Torrens, proceeded from Winchester to Plymouth; and the reserve battalion, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Crutchley, continued in Canada, the head-quarters being stationed at Montreal.

SUCCESSION OF COLONELS

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT,

OR,

THE ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

HENRY, (FOURTH) LORD HERBERT, OF CHERBURY.

Appointed 17th March, 1689.

THIS nobleman was a cousin of the celebrated Admiral Arthur Herbert, who was created Baron of Torbay, and Earl of Torrington, by King William III., for his eminent services at, and subsequent to, the Revolution of 1688. Henry, Lord Herbert, who raised the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, was appointed colonel of the regiment on the 17th of March, 1689, which he shortly afterwards resigned, and was succeeded by Colonel Charles Herbert, the youngest brother of the Admiral above mentioned. Henry, Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, died without issue on the 21st of April, 1691, and the titles became extinct; but were revived in about three years afterwards in the nephew of the first peer.

CHARLES HERBERT.

Appointed 10th April, 1689.

AMONGST the Lords and Commons summoned by the letter of the Prince of Orange, (afterwards King William III.,) to meet at Westminster on the 22nd of January, 1689, were Henry, Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, and Charles Herbert, Esq., M.P., for the town of Montgomery; the latter succeeded his cousin Lord Herbert, as Colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, on the 10th of April, 1689. Colonel Charles Herbert was killed at the battle of

Aghrim, on Sunday the 12th of July, 1691, after having passed a bog up to the middle, at the head of his regiment, and forced the Irish to quit the hedges they had occupied beyond it. But pushing them briskly to their main body, he was unfortunately taken prisoner; and the enemy seeing a probability of rescue, inhumanly put him to death. The honors of his brother, Admiral the Earl of Torrington, were entailed on him, so that his dying immaturely, and unmarried, made his loss the more to be regretted. Both the Admiral and his brother Charles, together with their cousin Lord Herbert, were all zealous supporters of the Revolution of 1688.

Toby Purcell.

Appointed 13th July, 1691.

Upon Colonel Charles Herbert being killed at the battle of Aghrim, Lieut.-Colonel Toby Purcell, of the Twenty-third Fusiliers, was promoted colonel of the regiment by King William III. Colonel Purcell distinguished himself at the battle of the Boyne, on the 1st of July, 1690, when major in the Twenty-third, and the spurs worn by him on that occasion are still preserved in the regiment, in possession of the senior major for the time being. Colonel Purcell did not long enjoy the honor of the colonelcy of the regiment, conferred upon him by his Sovereign, as his decease occurred in the year 1692.

Sir John Morgan, Bart.

Appointed 20th April, 1692.

This officer's connection with the Twenty-third, as colonel of the regiment, was but of brief duration, for his decease occurred in the early part of 1693, the year following his appointment to the colonelcy of the Twenty-third regiment.

Richard Ingoldsby.

Appointed 28th February, 1693.

Richard Ingoldsby entered the army in the reign of King Charles II., his first commission being dated the 13th of June, 1667. He adhered to the Protestant interest at the Revolution in 1688, and served under King William III., who

promoted Lieut.-Colonel Ingoldsby, from the Eighteenth Royal Irish regiment, to the colonelcy of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, on the 28th of February, 1693. He commanded the TWENTY-THIRD at the siege of Namur, in 1695, and in June, 1696, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General. On the breaking out of the "*War of the Spanish Succession*" in 1701, he was sent to Holland with a body of British troops, and he highly distinguished himself during several campaigns under the great Duke of Marlborough. He was promoted to the rank of major-general on the 9th of March, 1702, and served in that capacity during the campaigns of that and the following year. In January, 1704, he was promoted to the rank of lieut.-general, and his name is found among the officers who distinguished themselves at the battles of Schellenberg and Blenheim. On the 1st of April, 1705, Lieut.-General Ingoldsby was removed to his former regiment, the colonelcy of the eighteenth Royal Irish being conferred upon him by Her Majesty Queen Anne. After acquiring a high reputation in the field, he was honored with the appointments of one of Her Majesty's Lords Justices, and of Master of the Horse for Ireland. He died on the 29th of January, 1712.

JOSEPH SABINE.

Appointed 1st April, 1705.

THE commission of this officer, as major in the TWENTY-THIRD FUSILIERS, is dated 13th July, 1691, and his military career is intimately connected with the services of the regiment. Colonel Sabine was wounded at the battle of Schellenberg, near Donawerth, fought on the 2nd of July, 1704, and shared in the splendid victory obtained by the Duke of Marlborough, over Marshal Tallard and the Elector of Bavaria at Blenheim, on the 13th of August following. For his eminent services, Her Majesty Queen Anne conferred the colonelcy of the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS upon him, on the 1st of April, 1705, on Lieut.-General Ingoldsby being removed to the Eighteenth Royal Irish regiment. In 1708, Brigadier-General Sabine commanded the ten regiments sent from Ostend to Tynemouth, to oppose the designs of the Pretender, who made an unsuccessful attempt to land in England. Upon the return of the Pretender to Dunkirk, Brigadier Sabine re-

embarked for Ostend. The glorious victories gained by the Duke of Marlborough in the Netherlands, and which are detailed in the Regimental Record, afforded Brigadier Sabine frequent opportunities of distinguishing himself, particularly at the battle of Oudenarde, on the 11th of July, 1708, where his brigade captured the seven battalions of the Swiss regiments of Phiffer, Villars, and Greder. He also gained additional reputation at the siege of Lisle, on the 7th of September, 1708, in the attack of the counterscarp, Brigadier Sabine being selected to command the force ordered on that duty. In July, 1712, Major-General Sabine was appointed to command the citadel of Ghent, and on the conclusion of the treaty of Utrecht in April, 1713, he returned with the regiment to England. Here his active military career ceased, for the long interval of peace which ensued, afforded no opportunities for further display, although the attention he paid to the discipline of the TWENTY-THIRD, kept the regiment in a state of efficiency, and paved the way for its future honors in the "*War of the Austrian Succession*," previously to which the decease of General Joseph Sabine occurred, namely, on the 24th of October, 1739, a few months after his promotion to the rank of General.

NEWSHAM PEERS.

Appointed 23rd November, 1739.

LIEUT.-COLONEL NEWSHAM PEERS, of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, was promoted to the colonelcy of the regiment on the 23rd of November, 1739; but he did not long enjoy the honor, for the colonel was severely wounded at the battle of Dettingen on the 27th of June, 1743, of which he afterwards died.

JOHN HUSKE.

Appointed 28th July, 1743.

COLONEL JOHN HUSKE, of the thirty-second regiment, served as Brigadier at the battle of Dettingen on the 27th of June, 1743, and was severely wounded. He was promoted to the rank of major-general, and appointed Colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS on the 28th of July, 1743, by King George II., as a reward for his distinguished services. On

the breaking out of the rebellion in Scotland in 1745, the major-general's services were called in requisition to assist in forming the camp in the north of England under the command of Field-Marshal Wade. By his judicious conduct at the battle of Falkirk, on the 17th of January, 1746, he secured the retreat of the Royal forces to Linlithgow. He also distinguished himself at the battle of Culloden on the 16th of April, 1746, which crushed the rebellion. On the 11th of August, 1747, he was promoted to the rank of lieut.-general, and was further advanced to that of general on the 5th of December, 1746. General Huske commanded the TWENTY-THIRD regiment during the siege of Minorca, by the French, in 1756. General Huske died on the 16th of January, 1761.

THE HONORABLE GEORGE BOSCAWEN.

Appointed 16th January, 1761.

LIEUT.-GENERAL THE HONORABLE GEORGE BOSCAWEN, brother of Viscount Falmouth, entered the army as an ensign in the Foot Guards in the year 1728, in which he was afterwards promoted to the rank of Captain. He distinguished himself at the battles of Dettingen and Fontenoy in 1743 and 1745; in the latter year he was appointed Deputy-Governor of Scilly. He was appointed colonel in the army on the 18th of August, 1749; and on the 14th of October was appointed aide-de-camp to the King: on the 4th of March, 1752, King George II. nominated him colonel of the twenty-ninth regiment. On the 14th of January, 1758, Colonel the Honorable George Boscawen was advanced to the rank of major-general, and to that of lieutenant-general on the 22nd of February, 1760. On the 16th of January, 1761, King George III. removed Lieut.-general the Honorable George Boscawen from the colonelcy of the Twenty-ninth to that of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS. Lieut.-general the Honorable George Boscawen's decease occurred on the 3rd of May, 1775, in York-street, St. James's.

WILLIAM VISCOUNT HOWE, K.B.

Appointed 11th May, 1775.

THIS distinguished officer commenced his military career as a cornet in the Duke of Cumberland's regiment of light dragoons, in which he was promoted to a lieutenancy on the 21st of Sep-

tember, 1747. The regiment was disbanded in 1749, shortly after the conclusion of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, which was signed in October of the preceding year. He was promoted to the rank of captain in the twentieth regiment on the 1st of June, 1750, and to that of major in the sixtieth (afterwards fifty-eighth) regiment on the 4th of January, 1756. On the 17th of December, 1757, he was promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the fifty-eighth regiment. During the "*Seven Years' War*," he served in America under Major-General Wolfe with great reputation, and was advanced to the brevet rank of colonel on the 19th of February, 1762. Colonel the Honorable William Howe was appointed by King George III. to the colonelcy of the Forty-sixth regiment on the 21st of November, 1764. His Majesty also advanced him to the rank of major-general on the 25th of May, 1772. Major-general the Honorable William Howe was appointed to succeed General Gage in the chief command of the British forces in America shortly after the commencement of the War of Independence and arrived at Boston with Major-generals Clinton and Burgoyne in May, 1775. Major-general the Honorable Sir William Howe, K.B., was appointed by His Majesty, colonel of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, from the forty-sixth regiment, on the 11th of May, 1775. He commanded at the attack on Bunker's Hill on the 17th of June following, was besieged in Boston during the winter, evacuated that town in the spring of 1776, and retired to Halifax, in Nova Scotia. In June, he arrived at Staten Island, where he was joined by his brother Admiral Lord Howe. The brothers here informed the American Congress, that they had received full power to grant pardon to such as should return to their obedience; but the Commissioners appointed by that body declined the proposition as unworthy of attention. In August, he defeated the Americans at Long Island, and took possession of New York in September. After the campaign of the Jerseys, Sir William Howe sailed for New York, and entered Chesapeake Bay. Having previously secured the command of the Schuylkill, he crossed it with his army, and repelled the attack of the Americans at Germantown, in September. On the 29th of the previous month (August) His Majesty had advanced him to the rank of lieut.-general. In the spring of 1778, he returned to England, having resigned the

command of the army to Lieut.-general Sir Henry Clinton. On the 21st of April, 1786, Sir William Howe was removed to the colonelcy of the nineteenth (late twenty-third) Light Dragoons, which he retained until his decease. On the 12th of October, 1793, Sir William Howe was promoted to the rank of general. In 1799, he succeeded to the Irish peerage held by his brother Richard Earl Howe, the celebrated Admiral; and in 1805 he was appointed Governor of Plymouth. General Viscount Howe died on the 12th of July, 1814, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

Richard Grenville.

Appointed 21st April, 1786.

This officer entered the army in the year 1759, as an ensign in the First Foot Guards; he obtained the rank of captain in 1760, by raising an independent company; and on the 7th of May, 1761, he was removed to the twenty-fourth regiment. Captain Grenville served the campaigns of 1761 and 1762, in Germany, as aide-de-camp to the Marquis of Granby. In 1772, he purchased a company in the Coldstream Guards, and in 1776, he accompanied the brigade of Foot Guards to North America. On the 19th of February, 1799, he was promoted to the rank of colonel, and on the 20th of November, 1782, to that of major-general. His Majesty King George III., as a reward for his services, conferred upon Major-general Grenville the colonelcy of the Twenty-third Royal Welsh Fusiliers, on the 21st of April, 1786; on the 3rd of May, 1796, he was advanced to the rank of lieut.-general; and to that of general on the 1st of January, 1801. General Grenville died in London on the 22nd of April, 1823.

Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart., G.C.B., and G.C.H.

Appointed from the Eighty-fifth regiment on the 23rd April, 1823.

APPENDIX.

List of Battles, Sieges, &c., in the Netherlands, during the reign of KING WILLIAM III., *from* 1689 *to the Peace of Ryswick in* 1697.

Battle of Walcourt	25 August,	1689
——— Fleurus	1 July,	1690
Mons surrendered to the French	10 April,	1691
Namur surrendered to the French	1 July,	1692
Battle of Steenkirk	3 August,	——
Furnes and Dixmude captured	— Sept.,	——
The French lines at D'Otignies forced	10 July,	1693
Battle of Landen, or Neer-Winden	29 July,	——
Surrender of Huy	28 Sept.,	1694
Attack on Fort Knocque	9 June,	1695
Dixmude surrendered to the French.	16 July,	——
Deinse surrendered to the French	21 July,	——
Namur retaken by King William III.	25 July,	——
Citadel of Namur surrendered	5 Sept.,	——
Treaty of Ryswick signed.	21 Sept.,	1697

N.B.—The *dates* given in this, and in the three following pages, are according to the *Gregorian*, or *New Style*.

The *Julian* or *Old Style*, was named after Julius Cæsar, who adjusted the Calendar, and ordained that the year should consist of 365 days 6 hours:—a *day* being added to every *fourth* year by the accumulation of these *six hours*. This mode of reckoning continued until the sixteenth century; but as the year was upwards of eleven minutes too long by this calculation, the excess had amounted in the year 1582 to *ten days*. Pope Gregory XIII. accordingly amended the Calendar by ordering that the 5th of October should be reckoned the 15th of October. The Catholic nations adopted the *Gregorian Style*, but the Protestants rejected the improvement, In the year 1700, however, when it became necessary to omit *eleven days*, the Protestants of Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, adopted the *New Style*.

England retained the *Julian* computation until the reign of King George II., when an Act of Parliament (24 George II., 1751) was passed, which provided that *eleven days* should be dropped from the year 1752, by considering the 3rd of September as the 14th of September.

The year 1800 was not reckoned as a *leap* year, and therefore interposed another day between the Old and New Style, so that Russia, where the Julian method is still followed, is *twelve* days behind the other nations of Europe, which have adopted the *Gregorian* computation.

List of Sieges, Battles, &c., in the Netherlands and Germany, connected with the Services of the British Army, during the "War of the Spanish Succession," from 1702 *to* 1713.

	Invested.	Surrendered.	
Siege of Kayserswerth by the Prince of Nassau Saarbruck	16 April,	17 June,	1702
Skirmish near Nimeguen between the French army under Marshal Boufflers, and the Allied troops under the Earl of Athlone		11 June,	——
The Earl of Marlborough assumed the command of the Allied Army		2 July,	——
Siege of Venloo	29 Aug.,	25 Sept.,	——
Capture of Fort St. Michael		18 Sept.,	——
Siege of Stevenswaert	29 Sept.	3 Oct.,	——
—— Ruremonde	2 Oct.	7 Oct.,	——
Capture of Liege Citadel by storm		23 Oct.,	——
The Chartreuse of Liege surrendered		29 Oct.,	——
The Earl of Marlborough created Duke of Marlborough		14 Dec.,	——
Action with the French near Tongres		10 May,	1703
Siege of Bonn	24 April,	15 May,	——
—— Huy	16 Aug.,	25 Aug.,	——
—— Limburg	10 Sept.,	28 Sept.,	——
March of the Allies into Germany		19 May,	1704
Battle of Schellenberg, near Donawerth		2 July,	——
Donawerth entered by the Allied Army		3 July,	——
Siege of Rain. (*trenches opened*)	13 July,	17 July,	——
—— Ingoldstadt (*abandoned after the Battle of Blenheim*)	9 Aug.,		
Battle of Blenheim		13 Aug.,	——
Ratisbon, Augsburg, Meningen, and other imperial towns occupied by the Confederate Army		— Aug.,	——
Ulm surrendered to General Thungen		11 Sept.,	——
Siege of Landau	12 Sept.,	24 Nov.,	——
Occupation of Treves		29 Oct.,	——
Siege of Traerbach	3 Nov.,	20 Dec.,	——
Huy captured by the French		11 June,	1705
Recapture of Huy		11 July,	——
Forcing the French Lines at Helixem, and Neer Hespen, near Tirlemont		18 July,	——
Skirmish near the Dyle		21 July,	——
Siege of Sandvliet	26 Oct.,	29 Oct.,	——
Battle of Ramilies		23 May,	1706
The principal towns of Brabant, and of Flanders, occupied by the Allied Army		— May and June,	——

	Invested.	Surrendered.	
Siege of Ostend	28 June,	8 July	1706
——— Menin	25 July,	25 Aug.,	——
——— Dendermond	29 Aug.,	5 Sept.,	——
——— Aeth	16 Sept.,	3 Oct.,	——
Battle of Oudenarde		11 July,	1708
Siege of Lisle	13 Aug.,	23 Oct.,	——
Battle of Wynendale		28 Sept.,	——
The Citadel of Lisle surrendered		9 Dec.,	——
Passage of the French positions on the Scheldt		27 Nov.,	——
Siege of Ghent	18 Dec.,	30 Dec.,	——
——— Tournay	27 June,	29 July,	1709
Capture of the Citadel		3 Sept.,	——
Battle of Malplaquet		11 Sept.,	——
Siege of Mons	21 Sept.,	20 Oct.,	——
Passage of the French lines at Pont à Vendin		21 April,	1710
Siege of Douay	25 April,	27 June,	——
——— Bethune	15 July,	29 Aug.,	——
——— St. Venant	6 Sept.,	30 Sept.,	——
——— Aire	6 Sept.,	9 Nov.,	——
Passage of the French lines at Arleux		5 Aug.,	1711
Siege of Bouchain	10 Aug.,	13 Sept.,	——
The Duke of Ormond assumed the command of the forces, in succession to the Duke of Marlborough		9 May,	1712
Siege of Quesnoy	8 June,	4 July,	——
Occupation of Dunkirk by the British troops		7 July,	——
Treaty of Utrecht signed		11 April,	1713

Battles, Sieges, &c., which occurred in Germany and in the Netherlands from 1743 *to* 1748, *during the "War of the Austrian Succession."*

Battle of Dettingen (Germany)	27 June,	1743
Menin invested by the French 18 May, and captured	5 June,	1744
Ypres invested by the French 7 June, and captured	14 June,	——
Fort Knocque surrendered to the French	June,	——
Furnes surrendered to the French	5 July,	——
Friburg (Germany) invested by the French	21 Sept.	——
Citadel of Friburg captured by the French	28 Nov.	——
Tournay invested by the French	23 April,	1745
Battle of Fontenoy	11 May,	——
Citadel of Tournay surrendered to the French	21 June,	——
Skirmish near Ghent	9 July,	——
Citadel of Ghent captured by the French	15 July,	——
Bruges captured by the French	July,	——
Oudenarde captured by the French	21 July,	——
Dendermond captured by the French	Aug.	——
Ostend invested by the French on 14 July, and captured	23 Aug.	——
Nieuport captured by the French	26 Aug.	——
Aeth captured by the French	28 Sept.	——
Brussels invested by the French 24 Jan., and captured	20 Feb.	1746
Mechlin captured by the French	May,	——
Antwerp captured by the French	20 May,	——
Citadel of Antwerp captured by the French	31 May,	——
Mons invested by the French on 7 June, and captured	11 July,	——
Fort St. Ghislain captured by the French	21 July,	——
Charleroi invested by the French on 25 July, and captured	2 Aug.	——
Huy captured by the French	Aug.	——
Namur invested by the French 26 Aug.; Citadel captured	19 Sept.	——
Battle of Roucoux, near Liege	11 Oct.	——
Sluys surrendered to the French	11 April,	1747
Fort Sandberg in Hulst, and Axel, surrendered to the French	28 April,	——
Sandvliet captured by the French	June,	——
Battle of Val, or Laffeld, near Maestricht	2 July,	——
Bergen-op-Zoom invested by the French 13 July, and captured	16 Sept.	——
Forts Lillo, Frederick Henry, and Croix	2 Oct.	——
Limburg captured by the French	March,	1748
Maestricht invested by the French	3 April,	——
Maestricht surrendered to the French	3 May,	——
Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle	7 Oct.	——

LIST of the BRITISH REGIMENTS which served in FLANDERS and GERMANY between 1742 and 1748, during the "*War of the Austrian Succession.*"

CAVALRY.		Year in which embarked for Flanders.	Returned to Great Britain in consequence of the Rebellion in favor of the Pretender.	Rejoined the Army in Flanders, after the suppression of the Rebellion.
REGIMENTS.	COLONELS.			
3rd Troop Horse Guards	Earl of Albemarle	1742	1746	..
4th ditto ditto	Earl of Effingham	1742	1746	..
2nd ditto Horse Grenadier Guards	Earl of Craufurd	1742	1746	..
Royal Regiment Horse Guards	Earl of Hertford	1742	1746	..
1st Horse (1st Dragoon Guards)	Earl of Pembroke	1742	1746	..
4th Irish Horse (7th Dragoon Guards)	Sir John Ligonier	1742	1745	..
1st Dragoons	Hawley	1742	1745	..
2nd ditto	Campbell	1742	Remd. in Flanders	..
3rd ditto	Honeywood	1742	1745	..
4th ditto	Rich	1742	1746	1747
6th ditto (Inniskilling)	Lord Cadogan	1742	Remained in Flanders.	..
7th ditto	Cope	1742		
FOOT GUARDS.				
1st Foot Guards 1st Battalion	Duke of Cumberland	1742	1745	1747
2nd ditto ditto	Duke of Marlborough	1742	1745	..
3rd ditto ditto	Earl of Dunmore	1742	1745	1747
INFANTRY.				
1st Foot 1st Batt.	St. Clair	1744	1745	..
3rd ditto (Buffs)	Howard	1742	1745	1747
4th ditto	Barrel	1744	1745	..
8th ditto	Onslow	1742	1745	1746
11th ditto	Cornwallis	1742	Remd. in Flanders	..
12th ditto	Duroure	1742	1745	..
13th ditto	Pulteney	1742	1745	1746
18th ditto	Mordaunt	1743	1745	..
19th ditto (Green)	Howard	1744	Remd. in Flanders	..
20th ditto	Bligh	1742	1745	1748
21st ditto, Royal Nth. British Fusiliers	Campbell	1742	1745	1747
23rd ditto, Royal Welsh Fusiliers	Peers	1742	1745	1747
25th ditto	Earl of Rothes	1744	1745	1747
28th ditto	Bragg	1744	1745	..
31st ditto	Handasyd	1742	1745	..
32nd ditto	Skelton	1742	Remained in Flanders.	..
33rd ditto	Johnson	1742		
34th ditto	Cholmondeley	1744	1745	..
36th ditto	Fleming	1744	1745	1747
37th ditto	Ponsonby	1742	1745	1747
42nd ditto	Lord Semphill	1744	1745	..
48th ditto	Lord Harry Beauclerk	1744	1745	1747

Names of the Officers belonging to the ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS on the 1st of August, 1759, the date of the Battle of "MINDEN."

Rank.	Name.	Date of Commission.	Rank in the Army.
Colonel . .	John Huske . .	29 July 1743	Lt.-Gen. 11th of Aug. 1747.
Lieut.-Colonel	E. Sacheverel Pole*	9 Jan. 1756	
Major . .	Thos. Marlay . .	7 Sept. „	
Captain . .	Charles Hemington	29 Oct. 1754	
„	Paston Gould . .	16 „ 1755	
„	Patrick Rainey .	25 Dec. „	
„	Paul Castleman .	23 Mar. 1756	
„	William Fowler* .	26 Aug. „	27 Apr. 1756
„	John Fox* . . .	28 „ „	
Captain Lieut.	Richard Bolton* .	5 Apr. 1757	
First Lieuts.	Benjamin Young .	29 Oct. 1754	
„	Benjamin Bernard	2 „ 1755	
„	Cuthbert Shafto .	26 Dec. „	
„	Charles Reynell* .	25 Aug. 1756	27 Apr. 1756
„	Joseph Patterson*	26 „ „	23 June „
„	James Sutherland.	27 „ „	
„	Harry Blunt . .	28 „ „	
„	Arthur Barber* .	1 Sept. „	
„	Philip Mercier .	2 „ „	
„	Arthur Hawthorne	3 „ „	
„	Edward Evans .	7 „ „	
„	Grey Grove* . .	25 „ 1757	
„	George Orpin* .	26 „ „	
„	William Blakeney	27 „ „	
„	Robert Gibbings .	28 „ „	
„	Thomas Grant .	29 „ „	
„	Joseph Ferguson .	30 „ „	
„	Fred. Mackenzie .	3 Oct. „	
„	Charles Owen. .	9 June 1759	
Second Lieuts.	William Tyrwhitt	24 Sept. 1757	
„	James Creswell .	25 „ „	
„	William Wollery .	27 „ „	
„	David Ferguson* .	30 „ „	
„	George Pettener .	1 Oct. „	
„	Thomas Mecan .	20 Dec. 1758	
„	Robert Douglas .	7 Feb. 1759	
„	Maxwell Boyle .	9 June „	
Chaplain . .	James Ashton. .	28 Sept. 1757	
Adjutant . .	Benjamin Bernard	23 Mar. 1756	
Quarter Master	Richard Baily .	22 July 1758	
Surgeon . .	William Pearson .	15 „ 1758	

* Wounded at Minden.

[*From Grose's "Military Antiquities."*]

"The ROYAL REGIMENT of WELSH FUSILIERS has a privileged "honor of passing in review, preceded by a *goat* with *gilded horns*, "and adorned with *ringlets of flowers*; and although this may not "come immediately under the denomination of a reward for merit, "yet the corps values itself much on the ancientness of the custom.

"Every 1st of March, being the anniversary of their tutelar saint, "David, the officers give a splendid entertainment to all their Welsh "brethren, and after the cloth is taken away, a bumper is filled round "to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, (whose health is always "drunk to first on that day,) the band playing the old tune of '*The "noble race of Shenkin*,' when a handsome drum-boy, elegantly "dressed, mounted on the goat, richly caparisoned for the occasion, "is led thrice round the table in procession by the drum-major.

"It happened in 1775, at Boston, that the animal gave such a "spring from the floor, that he dropped his rider upon the table, "and then bounding over the heads of some officers, he ran to the "barracks with all his trappings, to the no small joy of the garrison." —*Major Donkin's Military Collections.*"

"GENERAL ORDERS. *Horse Guards, 16th May*, 1801.

"THE recent events which have occurred in Egypt have induced His Majesty to lay his most gracious commands on His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, to convey to the troops employed in that country His Majesty's highest approbation of their conduct; and at the same time His Majesty has deemed it expedient that these his gracious sentiments should be communicated to every part of his army, not doubting that all ranks will thereby be inspired with an honorable spirit of emulation, and an eager desire of distinguishing themselves in their country's service.

"Under the blessing of Divine Providence, His Majesty ascribes the successes that have attended the exertions of his troops in Egypt to that determined bravery which is inherent in Britons; but His Majesty desires it may be most solemnly and most forcibly impressed on the consideration of every part of the army, that it has been a strict observance of *order*, *discipline*, and *military* system, which has given its full energy to the native valour of the troops, and has enabled them proudly to assert the superiority of the national military character, in situations uncommonly arduous, and under circumstances of peculiar difficulty.

"The illustrious example of their Commander cannot fail to have made an indelible impression on the gallant troops, at whose head, crowned with victory and glory, he terminated his honorable career; and His Majesty trusts that a due contemplation of the talents and virtues which he uniformly displayed in the course of his valuable life, will for ever endear the memory of SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY to the British army.

"His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief having thus obeyed His Majesty's commands, cannot forbear to avail himself of this opportunity of recapitulating the leading features of a series of operations so honorable to the British arms.

"The boldness of the approach to the coast of Aboukir, in defiance of a powerful and well-directed artillery, the orderly formation upon the beach, under the heaviest fire of grape and musketry, the reception and repulse of the enemy's cavalry and infantry, the subsequent charge of our troops, which decided the victory, and established a footing on the shores of Egypt, are circumstances of glory never surpassed in the military annals of the world.

"The advance of the army, on the 13th of March, towards ALEXANDRIA, presents the spectacle of a movement of infantry through an open country, who, being attacked upon their march, *formed*, and *repulsed* the enemy; then advanced in line for three miles, engaged along their whole front, until they drove the enemy to seek his safety under the protection of his entrenched position. Such had been the order and regularity of the advance.

"Upon the 21st of March, the united force of the French in Egypt attacked the position of the British army.

"An attack, begun an hour before daylight, could derive no advantage over the vigilance of an army ever ready to receive it. The enemy's most vigorous and repeated efforts were directed against the right and centre. Our infantry fought in the plain, greatly inferior in the number of their artillery, and unaided by cavalry.

"They relied upon their discipline and their courage. The desperate attacks of a veteran cavalry, joined to those of a numerous infantry, which had vainly styled itself '*Invincible*,' were everywhere repulsed; and a conflict the most severe terminated in one of the most signal victories which ever adorned the annals of the British nation.

"In bringing forward these details, the Commander-in-Chief does not call upon the army merely *to admire* but *to emulate* such conduct. Every soldier who feels for the honor of his country, while he exults in events so splendid and important in themselves, will henceforth have fresh motives for cherishing and enforcing the practice of discipline, and by uniting, in the greatest perfection, order and precision with activity and courage, will seek to uphold, and transmit undiminished to posterity, the *Glory* and *Honor* of the *British Arms*.

"Nor is a less useful example to be derived from the conduct of the distinguished Commander who fell in the field. His steady observance of discipline, his ever-watchful attention to the health and wants of his troops, the persevering and unconquerable spirit which marked his military career, the splendour of his actions in the field, and the heroism of his death, are worthy the imitation of all who desire, like him, a life of honor and a death of glory.

"By Order of His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief.

"HARRY CALVERT, *Colonel and Adjutant-General*."

The following Regiments were employed in Egypt, in 1801, and were permitted by His Majesty King George the Third, to bear on their colours the *Sphinx*, with the word "EGYPT," as a distinguished mark of His Majesty's, Royal approbation, and as a lasting memorial of the glory acquired to His Majesty's arms by the zeal, discipline, and intrepidity of his troops in that arduous and important campaign, *viz.*—

Corps.	*Commanding Officers.*
‡8th Light Dragoons, 1 Troop	Captain Hawkins.
11th Light Dragoons, 1 Troop	Captain A. Money.
12th ,,	Colonel Mervyn Archdall.
†22nd ,,	Lieut.-Col. Hon. Wm. Lumley.
26th (afterwards 23rd) Light Dragoons	Lieut.-Colonel Robert Gordon.
Hompesch's Hussars (detachment)	Major Sir Robert T. Wilson.
Coldstream Guards, 1st Battalion	Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Brice.
3rd Foot Guards, 1st Battalion	Lieut.-Colonel T. Hilgrove Turner
Royals, 2nd Battalion	Lieut.-Colonel Duncan Campbell.
2nd, Queen's Royal	Colonel the Earl of Dalhousie.
8th Foot, King's	Colonel Gordon Drummond.
*10th ,,	Lieut.-Colonel Richard Quarrell.
13th ,,	,, Hon. Chas. Colville.
18th, Royal Irish	,, Henry T. Montresor
†20th Foot, 1st and 2nd Battalions	,, George Smith.
23rd, Royal Welsh Fusiliers	,, John Hall.
†24th Foot	,, John R. Forster.
†25th ,,	Colonel William Dyott.
†26th ,,	,, Lord Elphinstone.
27th, Inniskilling, 1st & 2nd Bns.	Lieut.-Colonel Samuel Graham.
28th Foot	Colonel Hon. Edward Paget.
30th ,,	Lieut.-Colonel Wm. Wilkinson.
40th ,, (Flank Companies)	Colonel Brent Spencer.
42nd, Royal Highland Regt.	Lieut.-Colonel William Dickson.
44th Foot	,, David Ogilvie.

* The 10th, 80th, 86th, and 88th Regiments proceeded from the East Indies, under the orders of Major-General David Baird, to join the army in Egypt.

† The 22nd Light Dragoons, 20th (two battalions), 24th, 25th, and 26th Regiments, the Ancient Irish Fencibles, and the foreign corps of De Watteville and Chasseurs Britanniques, joined the Army in Egypt in July, 1801.

‡ One troop of the 8th Light Dragoons and the 61st Regiment, embarked from the Cape of Good Hope, joined the army under Major-General Baird at Cosseir, in July, 1801, and proceeded through the Desert to Gheneh, or Kenneh, on the Nile, where the troops embarked for Cairo.

Corps.	*Commanding Officers.*
50th Foot	Colonel Patrick Wauchope.
54th ,, 1st and 2nd Battalions	Lieut.-Colonel John Thos. Layard.
58th ,, ...	,, William Houstoun.
‡61st ,, ...	,, Francis Carruthers.
79th ,, ...	Colonel Alan Cameron.
*80th ,, ...	Lieut.-Colonel John Montresor.
*86th ,, ...	,, James P. Lloyd.
*88th ,, ...	Colonel Wm. Carr Beresford.
89th ,, ...	,, William Stewart.
90th ,, ...	,, Rowland Hill.
92nd ,, ...	Lieut.-Colonel Charles Erskine.
†De Watteville's Regiment . .	Lieut.-Col. Louis de Watteville.
The Queen's German Regiment	Lt.-Col. Peter John Jas. Dutens.
De Roll's Regiment	,, The Baron De Dürler.
Dillon's Regiment	,, The Baron Perponcher.
Royal Corsican Rangers. . .	Major Hudson Lowe.
†Ancient Irish Fencibles.	
†Chasseurs Britanniques . . .	Colonel John Ramsay.
Staff Corps (detachment).	

"GENERAL ORDERS. *His Majesty's Ship, 'Audacious,' 18th January*, 1809.

"The irreparable loss that has been sustained by the fall of the Commander of the Forces (*Lieut.-General Sir John Moore*), and the severe wound which has removed *Lieut.-General Sir David Baird* from his station, render it the duty of *Lieut.-General Hope* to congratulate the army upon the successful result of the action of the 16th instant.

"On no occasion has the undaunted valour of British troops ever been more manifest. At the termination of a severe and harassing march, rendered necessary by the superiority which the enemy had acquired, and which had materially impaired the efficiency of the troops, many disadvantages were to be encountered.

"These have all been surmounted by the conduct of the troops themselves; and the enemy has been taught, that whatever advantages of position, or of numbers he may employ, there is inherent in the British officers and soldiers, a bravery that knows not how to yield, that no circumstances can appal, and that will ensure victory when it is to be obtained by the exertion of any human means.

"The Lieut.-General has the greatest satisfaction in distinguishing such meritorious services, as came within his observation, or have been brought to his knowledge.

"His acknowledgments are, in a peculiar manner, due to *Lieut.-General Lord William Bentinck*, and the brigade under his command, consisting of the fourth, forty-second, and fiftieth regiments, and which sustained the weight of the attack.

"*Major-General Manningham*, with his brigade, consisting of the Royals, the twenty-sixth and eighty-first regiments, and *Major-General Warde*, with the brigade of Guards, will also be pleased to accept his best thanks for their steady and gallant conduct during the action.

"To *Major-General Paget*, who, by a judicious movement of the reserve effectually contributed to check the progress of the enemy on the right; and to the first battalions of the fifty-second and ninety-fifth regiments, which were thereby engaged, the greatest praise is justly due.

"That part of *Major-General Leith's* brigade which was engaged, consisting of the fifty-ninth regiment, under

the conduct of the Major-General, also claims marked approbation.

"The enemy not having rendered the attack on the left a serious one, did not afford to the troops stationed in that quarter an opportunity of displaying that gallantry which must have made him repent the attempt.

"The piquets and advanced posts, however, of the brigades under the command of *Major-Generals Hill* and *Leith*, and *Colonel Catlin Craufurd*, conducted themselves with determined resolution; and were ably supported by the officers commanding these brigades, and by the troops of which they were composed.

"It is peculiarly incumbent upon the Lieut.-General to notice the vigorous attack made by the second battalion of the *fourteenth* regiment under *Lieut.-Colonel Nicolls*, which drove the enemy out of the village, of the left of which he had possessed himself.

"The exertions of *Lieut.-Colonel Murray*, Quarter-Master General, and of the other officers of the General Staff, during the action, were unremitted, and deserve every degree of approbation.

"The illness of *Brigadier-General Clinton*, Adjutant-General, unfortunately deprived the army of the benefit of his services.

"The Lieut.-General hopes the loss in point of numbers is not so considerable as might have been expected; he laments, however, the fall of the gallant soldiers and valuable officers who have suffered.

"The Lieut.-General knows that it is impossible, in any language he can use, to enhance the esteem, or diminish the regret, that the army feels with him for its late Commander. His career has been unfortunately too limited for his country, but has been sufficient for his own fame. Beloved by the army, honored by his Sovereign, and respected by his country, he has terminated a life devoted to her service, by a glorious death,—leaving his name as a memorial, an example, and an incitement, to those who shall follow him in the path of honor, and it is from his country alone that his memory can receive the tribute which is its due.

(Signed) "JOHN HOPE, *Lieut.-General.*"

"GENERAL ORDERS. *Horse Guards,*
1st February, 1809.

"The benefits derived to an army from the example of a distinguished Commander, do not terminate at his death; his virtues live in the recollection of his associates, and his fame remains the strongest incentive to great and glorious actions.

"In this view, the Commander-in-Chief, amidst the deep and universal regret which the death of Lieut.-General Sir JOHN MOORE has occasioned, recals to the troops the military career of that illustrious officer for their instruction and imitation.

"Sir JOHN MOORE from his youth embraced the profession with the feelings and sentiments of a soldier; he felt that a perfect knowledge, and an exact performance of the humble but important duties of a subaltern officer, are the best foundations for subsequent military fame; and his ardent mind, while it looked forward to those brilliant achievements for which it was formed, applied itself, with energy and exemplary assiduity, to the duties of that station.

"In the school of regimental duty, he obtained that correct knowledge of his profession so essential to the proper direction of the gallant spirit of the soldier; and he was enabled to establish a characteristic order and regularity of conduct, because the troops found in their leader a striking example of the discipline which he enforced on others.

"Having risen to command, he signalized his name in the West Indies, in Holland, and in Egypt. The unremitting attention with which he devoted himself to the duties of every branch of his profession, obtained him the confidence of Sir Ralph Abercromby, and he became the companion in arms of that illustrious officer, who fell at the head of his victorious troops, in an action which maintained our national superiority over the arms of France.

"Thus Sir JOHN MOORE at an early period obtained, with general approbation, that conspicuous station, in which he gloriously terminated his useful and honorable life.

"In a military character obtained amidst the dangers of climate, the privations incident to service, and the sufferings of repeated wounds, it is difficult to select any one point as a preferable subject for praise; it exhibits, however, one

feature so particularly characteristic of the man, and so important to the best interests of the service, that the Commander-in-Chief is pleased to mark it with his peculiar approbation—

"THE LIFE OF SIR JOHN MOORE WAS SPENT AMONGST THE TROOPS.

"During the season of repose, his time was devoted to the care and instruction of the officer and soldier; in war he courted service in every quarter of the globe. Regardless of personal considerations, he esteemed that to which his country called him, *the post of honor*, and by his undaunted spirit and unconquerable perseverance, he pointed the way to victory.

"His country, the object of his latest solicitude, will rear a monument to his lamented memory; and the Commander-in-Chief feels he is paying the best tribute to his fame by thus holding him forth as an EXAMPLE to the ARMY.

"By order of His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief.

"HARRY CALVERT,
"*Adjutant-General.*"

The following Regiments composed the Army under Lieut.-General Sir JOHN MOORE, at CORUNNA, on the 16th of January, 1809.

Corps.	*Commanding Officers.*
7th Light Dragoons.	Lieut.-Colonel Vivian
10th ,,	,, Leigh.
15th ,,	,, Grant.
18th ,,	,, Jones.
3rd ,,(King's Germ. Leg.)	Major Burgwesel.
Artillery	Colonel Harding.
Engineers	Major Fletcher.
Waggon Train Detachment	Lieut.-Colonel Langley.
1st Foot Guards, 1st Battalion.	,, Cocks.
,, 3rd ,,	,, Wheatley.
1st Foot . . . 3rd ,,	Major Muller.
2nd ,, . . . 1st ,,	Lieut.-Colonel Iremonger.
4th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Wynch.
5th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Mackenzie.
6th ,, . . . 1st ,,	Major Gordon.
9th ,, . . . 1st ,,	Lieut.-Colonel Cameron.
14th ,, . . . 2nd ,,	,, Nicolls.
20th ,, ...	,, Ross.
23rd ,, . . . 2nd ,,	,, Wyatt.
26th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Maxwell.
28th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Belson.
32nd ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Hinde.
36th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Burn.
38th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Hon.Chas.Greville
42nd ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Stirling.
43rd ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Gifford.
43rd ,, . . . 2nd ,,	,, Hull.
50th ,, . . . 1st ,,	Major Charles Napier.
51st ,, ...	Lieut.-Colonel Darling.
52nd ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Barclay.
52nd ,, . . . 2nd ,,	,, John Ross.
59th ,, . . . 2nd ,,	,, Fane.
60th ,, . . . 2nd ,,	,, Codd.
60th ,, . . . 5th ,,	Major Davy.
71st ,, . . . 1st ,,	Lieut.-Colonel Pack.
76th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Symes.
79th ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Cameron.
81st ,, . . . 2nd	Major Williams.
82nd ,, ...	,, M'Donald.
91st ,, . . . 1st ,,	,, Douglas.
92nd ,, . . . 1st ,,	Lieut.-Colonel Napier.
95th (Rifle Reg.) 1st ,,	,, Beckwith.
,, ,, 2nd ,,	,, Wade.
Staff Corps Detachment	,, Nicolay.
1st Light Batt. King's German Legion.	,, Leonhart.
2nd	,, Halkett.

Letter addressed to Colonel Pearson, commanding the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, *by Major-General Sir Willoughby Gordon, Bart., on his appointment to the Colonelcy of the Regiment.*

"*Horse Guards,*
"DEAR SIR, *28th April,* 1823.

"The Commander-in-Chief having acquainted me that the King has been graciously pleased to appoint me to the colonelcy of the TWENTY-THIRD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS, I take the earliest opportunity in my power to notify the same to you. I beg you will be assured, that it has been to me a source of the highest gratification in having been thus selected for this honorable command; and that while I receive it as an additional proof of His Majesty's favour to me, I feel a pride in the national distinction of the corps, and in being thus associated with its long and hardly-earned honors and renown, which it will be ever one of my most anxious duties to endeavour to maintain and extend.

"It is also no small satisfaction to me to be immediately placed in communication with an officer under whose command this fine regiment has established so much of its fame and glory.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "J. W. GORDON,
"*Colonel Royal Welsh Fusiliers.*

"*Colonel Pearson, C.B.,*
Commanding Twenty-third
Royal Welsh Fusiliers."

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